

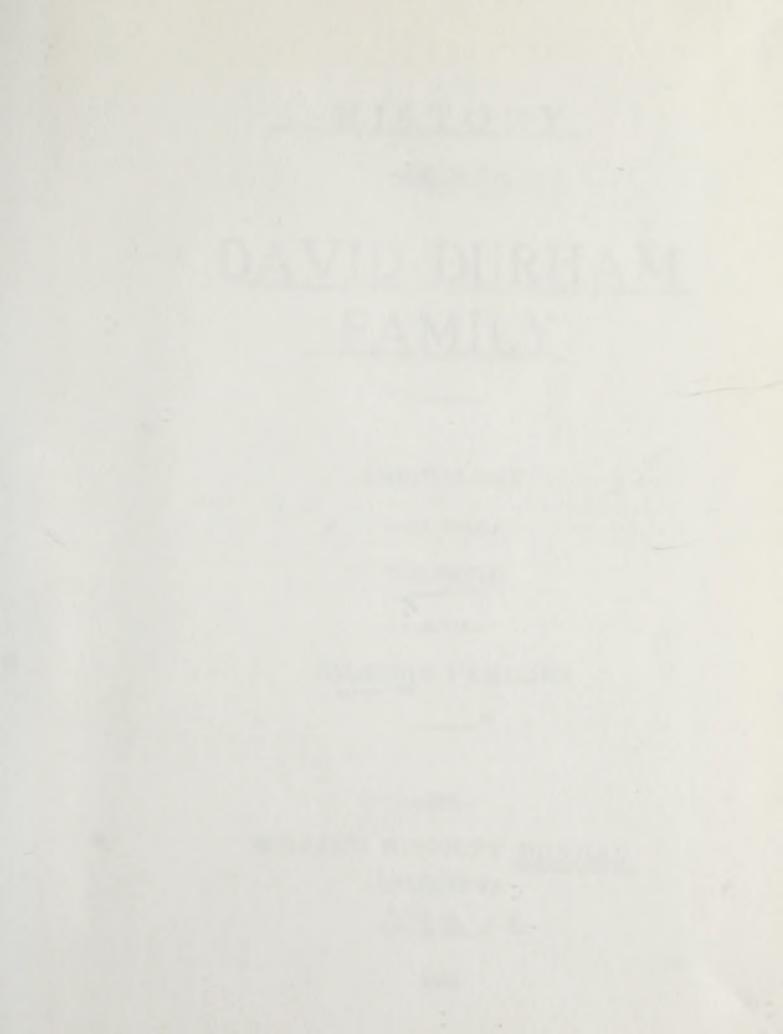
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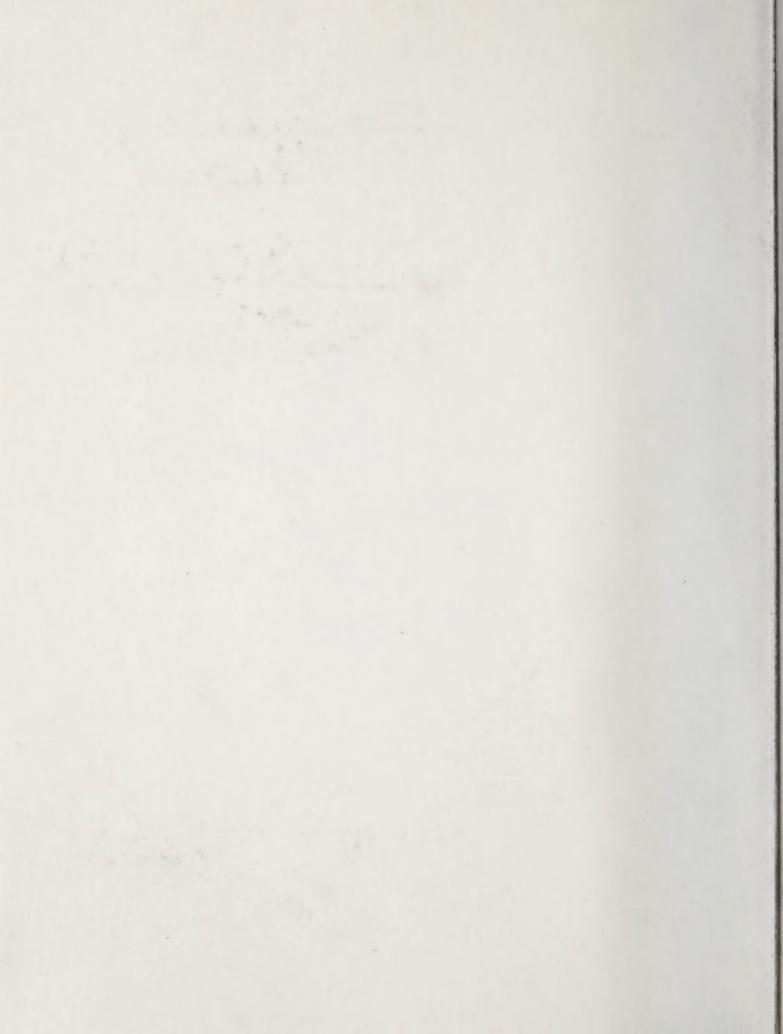
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HISTORY

OF THE

DAVID DURHAM FAMILY

GENEALOGY

35

-OF THE-

TOLFORD

-AND-

GILMORE FAMILIES

-BY-

WILLIAM BENNETT DURHAM
MILO, IOWA
433/6

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DAVID DURHAM FAMILY

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Having been chosen by the Durham Reunion Association, organized in the year 1918, to undertake the compiling of this data, and after much time and deliberation, we finally decided on putting out this work.—W. B. Durham.

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THE SCOTCH-IRISH

During the reign of Elizabeth, Queen of England, Ulster, a province embracing the northern counties of Ireland, became depopulated by frequent rebellions and was forfeited to the crown. Her successor, King James the First, took measures for starting new colonies in that fertile country and made liberal offers to some Scotch Presbyterians. Scotch-Irish are chiefly of Scotch descent, though they came to this country from Ireland. In 1611 King James I began colonizing Ulster, a barren and neglected part of Ireland, with people from Scotland and the northern part of England. They began migrating 'o America about the year 1730, and at the outbreak of the Revolutionary war about one-sixth of the population of the colonies was Scotch-Irish. Under the royal protection good order was secured. The Irish were removed from the hills and established in open localities and Ulster, formerly a wild and disorderly region, soon became cultivated and civilized. The immigrants were scattered chiefly in the counties of Down, Londonderry, and Antrim, and greatly assisted to build up the principal cities of Bangor, Derry and Belfast, Their prosperity, however, was regarded with jealousy and feelings of animosity by the natives of the soil who had been driven from their possessions. This disposition, together with a cherished hatred for the heretical Protestant, was the cause of the rebellion that occurred thirty years afterwards, under the reign of Charles I. Macaulay in referring to the hostility existing between the two races, says: "On the same soil dwelt two populations locally intermixed, morally and politically sundered. The difference of religion was by no means the only difference. and was perhaps not even the chief difference which existed between them. They sprang from different stocks; They spoke different languages; They had different national characters as strongly opposed as any two national characters in Europe. They were in widely different stages of civilization. There could therefore be little sympathy between them; and centuries of calamities and wrongs had generated a strong antipathy." (1 Macauley's Hist. Eng., 11-118).

As Presbyterians and dissenters from the Church of England, this Scottish people experienced many embarassments. They were indeed, permitted to maintain their own forms of worship unmolested; still they were compelled to aid in supporting a minister of the established religion, and tithes were rigorously exacted for this purpose. They also held their



lands and tenements by lease from the crown and not as proprietors of the soil. In addition to this the government began to impose taxes on their industry and trade like those which, at a later period, hampered and restricted the enterprise of the American colonies. Such oppression induced a respectable number to seek homes in America where they might escape these burdens. About one hundred families arrived at Boston in the autumn of 1718. At first they were not treated with due consideration, the people of this country erroneously regarded them as Irish, whereas no term could be more offensive. No relations of affinity or of consanguinity had ever existed between the two races and they were as distinct from the native population of Ireland as though they had never left Scotland.

After a fruitless search along the shore, finding no place that suited them, in the spring of 1719, sixteen families among which appear the names of Barnet, Clark, Clendennin, Gregg, McKeen, Mitchell, Morrison, Nesmith, and Steele, the sons and grandsons of whom were prominent in the founding of Belfast, "Hearing of a tract of good land above Haverhill called Nutfield, from the abundance of chestnut and walnut trees that grew there, selected it for their residence. Soon joined by others they built up a town, which in commemoration of the place whence many of their number had emigrated, was called Londonderry. These people were mostly of middle age. robust, persevering and adventurous; such as were well suited to encounter the toils of commencing a new settlement. Subject to hardships which would have discouraged men of less energy, they soon began to exert an influence extensive and beneficial. Our whole country is today the better for them. In the language of one of the most honored descendants, there has been almost no place of eminence, political, literary or professional, to which men of this race have not attained. The number of them whose names have been written in history is endless."

The pioneers of Londonderry first introduced the potato into New England.

"The trait most distinguishing the character of the first settlers," says the historian of Londonderry, "and the most valuable in its influence was their steadfast adherence to enlightened religious principles. They were also mindful of the means of education. Schools received public attention at an early period. The great proportion could read and write, while a few were more highly educated. Wherever a Londonderry man was found, there, with a few exceptions, was found a steadfast supporter of popular instruction as well as other civic insti-



tutions. Within the half century succeeding the foundations of the township some ten or twelve little companies had quitted its precincts and spread themselves in various parts of the southwest New Hampshire, in New York, Vermont and Nova Scotia, each forming the nucleus of a new town, which bore a marvelous family likeness to their common parent." Not the least scion from the original tree is our own city established, as will be seen in the next chapter by the sturdy Scotch-Irish of old Nutfield.

Nutfield comprised the towns of Londonderry, Derry and Windham and ports of Manchester, Hudson and Salem, New Hampshire.





THE FIRST SETTLERS

Among the sixteen men who with their families first composed the settlement of Londonderry, was one John Mitchell. He brought with him from Ireland a son of the same name then five years old, who learned the carpenter trade, also becoming a well known practical surveyor, and a teacher of the higher branches of mathematics. He being designated as John Mitchell Jr., who in 1765 visited Penobscot Bay, and first looked upon the place where our city now stands, being then a wilderness which no civilized person had ever penetrated, skirting the coast and extending as far as the eye could reach. Learning at Fort Pownall that this particular tract of timberland was for sale, he communicated the information to his friends in Londonderry. The result was the formation of a "Community" or "proprietory" as it was called, for the purchase of the township. On the fourth day of October, 1768, proprietors, 35 in number, held their first regular meeting in Londonderry and adopted certain articles of government. The proprietors agreed to divide the tract estimated to be about 15,000 acres into 51 loss or shares. One of the first acts which appears in record is "that we bind ourselves that no one shall own a right amongst us that is unable to produce a certificate of good moral character to the satisfaction of the community, and of the gentleman of whom we purchase." A bond was entered into to make an immediate settlement.

(Among the given names of these 35 organizers of Belfast we find that the name "John" appears 13 times, "James" six times, "Samuel" four times. We mention here only the names of Jehn Durham and John Brown in order to make history as brief as possible.—W. B. Durham.)

The representatives of the 51 rights agreed to divide the land on the shore into 52 harbor or first division lots, reserving one lot. No. 26, "for the first gospel minister that is settled; Viz., 100 acres of the north end, and the remainder of the south end to be a common, to build a meeting house on, and a grave-yard and a training-field.

These lots contained from 96 to 122 acres each.

Due notice having been served on the proprietors of this tract of land, they met in Londonderry, N. Hampshire, on March 8, 1769, to draw their several lots according to certain plotted survey made around the edge of the Bay. John Durham drew lot No. 9 containing 107 acres and 40 rods, and John Brown lot No. 18 containing 102 acres and 40 rods.



JOHN DURHAM OF CHESTER, N. H.

John Durham of Chester, N. H., came from Londonderry, Ireland, and was married to Mary Tolford in 1734 (as recorded in the U. S. of Bradford). Their son, Tolford, was born in Chester, although John D. before and after had lived in Londonderry, N. H., according to the History of Londonderry. He was one of the Grantees of the original tract of land, and drew Lot No. 9 in the first division of the town of Belfast, Maine, in 1763. Oct. 4th, and for several years he followed the sea. He settled in Belfast in 1773, bringing his two sons, Tolford and John who was about five years younger, born in 1744 and 1749 respectively.

John D. Sr. was one of the two town wardens, chosen at the organization in 1773.

(We mention the name of John Brown in connection with the Durhams for the reason that the two sons of John Durham, namely Tolford and John, later married daughters of John Brown.)

John Durham and John Brown were classed as yeomen; meaning no doubt a small land owner or farmer.

From the history of Belfast, Maine, U. S. A., page 92, we take the following, (By John Williamson, 1877):

John Brown, probably a son of John Brown, who was registered on the Londonderry tax list of 1750, was born in 1732 and came here the third year of the settlement, having drawn lot No. 18 in the first division. He was chairman of the first board of selectmen, chosen Nov. 11, 1773 and repeatedly held other offices of trust. While residing in Londonderry he had been a commissioned officer of the Provincial army, and served in the French war. He was a man of great vigor, energy, and honesty. He died here, May 13, 1817, aged 82 years and is buried in the east grave-yard. His family consisted of one son and eight daughters, as follows:

- 1 Jane, born Feb. 1, 1758, married Tolford Durham and died Feb. 9, 1855, aged 97 years.
- 2 Elizabeth, born 1760, married John Durham, and died July 1853, aged 93 years.

On page 93 we find the following: John Durham, the owner of lot No. 9, arrived June 24, 1773, accompanied by his two sons, Tolford and John. He was one of the two town wardens, chosen at the organization in 1773.



During the Revolution he went to Thomaston, or St. George. where he died probably about 1788. Tolford, his eldest son, born in Chester, New Hampshire in 1744, moved with his father's family to Londonderry when a boy. For several years he tollowed the sea. In 1779 he built a log hut on lot No. 31, opposite the house now occupied by his descendants, and married Jane Brown, the daughter of John Brown. Mr. Durham was commissioned as a lieutenant of militia soon after the incorporation of the town. He is erroneously supposed by White to have had charge of a company during the Revolution. It is certain, however, that he participated in the ill-fated Penobescot expedition. Early in this century he held various municipal offices. He became a member of the First Church in 1799, was chosen deacon the year following and held the position during his life. In 1795 he was appointed postmaster. During his official term, the office was kept in his house on the cast side of the river. He was one of the managers whose aid secured the East Bridge, and succeeded Jonathan Wilson as toll-gatherer.

Deacon Durham died Nov. 13, 1836, age 92. Mr. White refers to him as "in his 82nd year, enjoying good health, and all the native energies of his mind." His wife survived him until Feb. 9, 1855.

Their children were as follows:

Mary, born Aug. 20, 1778, died Aug. 14, 1780.

William, born Oct. 29, 1780.

John, born Mch. 8, 1783.

James, born June 6, 1785, died June 19, 1875.

Jean, born Sept. 23, 1787.

Mary (2nd), born Apr. 7, 1790.

David, born July 7, 1792 (Grandpa, who came to Iowa in 1838).

Margaret, born July 8, 1794.

Sally, born Dec. 13, 1796.

Joshua Tolford, born Jan. 12, 1799.

Jonathan, born May 9, 1802.

John, the second son, as stated above, married Elizabeth Brown, a sister of the wife of his brother Tolford, in Dec. 1780. In 1796 he purchased lot No. 36, containing 100 acres, for \$1400.00. This lot proved one of the most valuable in town. Its southern boundary was main street.

In 1798 Mr. Durham began life on this lot in a log house, situated in the rear of the New England House. He afterwards built and removed to a one-story frame house on High Street, which stood upon the site of McClentocks block of brick dwellings. In 1811 he removed to the dwelling house built by him



that year on Main St., known as the Avery house, from Captain William Avery, his son-in-law, who lived there for several years. When the lot was conveyed to him, that portion now covered by Phoenix Row, was fenced with brush and used as a pasture.

Mr. Durham died Oct. 25, 1823, aged 74 years. Mrs. Durham died July 8, 1853, aged 93 years. The following were their children: John, David, Elizabeth, James, Jonathan, Mary, Anna, William, Isabella and Sarah.

In 1793 some of the proprietors ascertained that by an error in the original survey they were excluded from a large tract of land. So a meeting of the proprietors of the town of Belfast was held and a competent surveyor employed. This survey showed that an error of several hundred acres had been made. James Patterson, Tolford Durham and John Durham were chosen as a committee of three representing the proprietors, who notified the Waldo heirs as to the new survey. Whereupon Gen. H. Knox, as owner of the unsold lands belonging to the Waldo patent, disputed their claims to the land. And in his letter to the aforesaid committee, General Knox addressed the Committee as follows:

Gentlemen: It has long been understood by me that certain proprietors of Belfast, in the year 1793 under the pretense of perambulating the boundaries of said town, as surveyed by Chadwick in the year 1769, and deeded on the 29th day of August of the same year, by the heirs of Brigadier Gen. Waldo to Moses Barnet and others, did alter and extend the boundaries of said Town, so as to embrace upwards of 2800 acres of my land. This encouchment, if true, can neither be for the honor nor interest of the proprietors of Belfast nor can it be submitted to by me without the most strict investigation. If the proprietors according to their deed have a legal right to the quantity embraced by their survey by Clark in 1793, they will undoubtedly hold it. But if they have no legal right, they will involve themselves in difficulty and expense in usurping my lands. In order to prevent any evil consequences to either the proprietors or myself, let us rationally examine the grounds of difference. I propose therefore, that three experienced surveyors of integrity and upright character be mutually chosen by us who shall be sworn to the faithful performance of their duty, who shall reinstall the boundaries of the surveys of Chadwick, on which the deed of 1769 was founded. I hope a proposition so safe will be received and consented to by the proprietors. If however, no agreement should be made before the first day of Au ;. next, such legal steps shall be taken on my part as the case may require. But I think in all cases, where an amicable agree ment can be had, the expenses of the law aught to be avoided. I am Gentlemen, with Esteem, Your humble servant,

H. KNOX.

To Messrs. James Patterson:

Tolford Durham: A committee of the John Durham: Proprietors of Belfast.

(Draft of the letter among the Knox Papers in library of the New England Historical Genealogical Society, copied by permission of the Directors.)

No settlement having been received at this time, the question was again raised by a representative of the proprietors named Robert Houston by letter to Gen. Knox, in Jan. 1806 which brought forth another letter of reply, this time making the proposition that the proprietors select one surveyor and he (Knox) choose one and with aid of chainmen the resurvey of the disputed lands. And further making the request that the survey be made the next month, Feb., and he would pay the expense.

On October 1st the proprietors held a special meeting and chose John Cochran and Tolford Durham to visit Gen. Knox to make a fair representation of the disputed lines. On the 10th of Oct. Gen. Knox addressed a letter to his surveyor, James Malsom, stating that Durham and Cochran, the proprietors' committee, had agreed to have a resurvey made.

One paragraph of this letter reads as follows: The accurate survey of this Belfast is a matter of great moment to me, and I request Mr. Lewis and his chainmen may be employed on this occasion. Notice must be previously given to the proprietors, through their committee, Messrs, Durham and Cochran.

The proposed survey was finally consummated and resulted in favor of the proprietors.—History of Belfast, Maine, U. S. A.



DURHAM SCOTCH-IRISH RECORDS

The following letter and record came too late to be given mention in the proper order so will be added here.

We think it quite probable that our John was the son of John and Elizabeth (Clelland) Durham, as they were married in the year 1716 and John was born in 1717 and, as reported elsewhere in our records, died in 1788 at Thomaston, Maine.

W. B. D.

.MRS. JAMES C. DURHAM 12 Church Street Belfast, Maine

June 2, 1939.

MY DEAR MR. DURHAM:

I have just got in touch with a William Durham, who is engaged on a work, "The Durhams in America." He has sent me the following enclosed which I am forwarding to you, thinking that if you have not had it you would be interested. He thinks our John was a son of John and Elizabeth (Cleliand) and it seems very probable. I have records of six children of John and Mary (Tolford), one daughter being Elizabeth, named probably for the grandmother. He also had a record that our John was born in 1717 and died at Thomaston in 1788. Said some cousin of his gave him the record. He is descended from the brother James, born 1696. Will you let me know when your book is published and what it will cost?

Very sincerely,

GERTRUDE F. DURHAM.

ANDREW DURHAM was born in Forfar, Forfarshire, Scotland in 1644. From him are descended most of the families of the name in that locality and is supposed to be of the same family from which the village of Durhamtown, situated between Edinburgh and Glascow, was named.

He married Mary McKinley in 1667 and had three children, Andrew born in 1668, Laur in 1670, and John in 1672.

JOHN DURHAM, son of Andrew and Mary (McKinley) Durham, went to Ireland in 1690 and settled in Kiltynaule, County of Tyrone, near Caledon.

:He married Anna Patton in 1692 and had four children.



John born in 1694, James in 1696, Andrew in 1697, and Anna in 1698.

JOHN DURHAM, son of John and Anna (Patton) Durham, married Elizabeth Clelland of Crossgar, County Down, in 1716.

They had a large family but none of their descendants reside in Ireland. They must have all emigrated to the colonies.

JAMES DURHAM, son of John and Anna (Patton) Durham, married Elizabeth Hamilton of Caledon, County Down, in 1718.

Three sons are mentioned, John born in 1721, James in 1729, and Andrew in 1733. His will was dated Sept. 6, 1762 and proved Feb. 2, 1763. He probably died late in 1762.

(The foregoing Scotch-Irish records are printed by permission of Wm. C. Durham, of Kingston, Mass. The records were secured by Henry Welles Durham, of New York City.)

It might seem to some that family history and genealogy is a very simple and easy matter. To those so minded, let me say: Just try it once. Though some have been very kind and considerate, and here I wish to express my sincere thanks! You have made it possible for us to make this little volume worth while. On the other hand, some of our nearest relatives have been the hardest to reach. I have written letters to several states asking for information from people of the same name and have been completely ignored. I have met several Durhams of the Southern Branch who were unable to trace their ancestry more than two generations back.

Our people are now scattered from Maine to California.

My father told me when I was yet a boy that before the Revolution there were three brothers came over from the north of Ireland; two of them stayed in the north and settled in Belfast, Maine; the other one went south and all trace of him or his whereabouts were lost. But if I were to make a guess, I think it more probable that the two brothers went south, leaving "Old John Durham" in the north. The history of Belfast by Williamson has been a great help to us. The old family Bible is another source of information, with its family record evidently made by (grandpa) David Durham, who came from Belfast, Maine, to Iowa. Also Mrs. James C. Durham of Belfast, Clifton Moore, formerly of Belfast, now in California, who gave us some valuable data.

W. B. Darham.



HISTORICAL SKETCH

By LORA DURHAM DAVEY (Londonderry Air With Slight Variation)

1.

Two hundred years ago in Belfast, Ireland,
A Scottish group oppressed by troubles rare;
Visions of freedom turning hopes toward New England,
They crossed the sea to build a Londonderry there.
Numbered among these Pilgrims were our ancestors
Braving the hardships of a country new
A call to arms—with right and might the conquerors
Through death and suffering peace and independence grew.

2.

From history came glimpses of the characters,
Of deeds uplifting in the paths of right;
With men of eminence the Durham name appears,
A beacon light to guide us on to unknown heights.
With Mary Tolford as his bride we find John Durham,
Establishing for us this family tree;
The strength of hardy pioneers its foundation,
Among the branches now are found both you and me.

3.

In Belfast, Maine first sprang the branches of this tree; Its vital strength enhanced by power above; A tree thus blessed is prone to reach from sea to sea; Its branches joined as one by bonds of kindred love. Then Westward-Ho! came David and his Nancy wife, Bringing their little ones—staunch hearts and brave. Death's Angel halts them while he takes away the wife. Oh Death! where is thy victory beyond the grave.

4.

"Durham's Ford" is crossed, a home is built upon the bank, With boat and ferry anchored by its door, Long days and nights Des Moines' dark waters rose and sank About its "hewn logs, clapboard roof and puncheon floor", They have passed on our heritage this path of right, God's love still guides us as in the days of yore. Through years of time He leads us by His Kindly Light, To meet with Him and all our loved ones gone before.

(Rendered by Lora Durham Davey and sister, Blanche E. Risinger, Lyle W. Durham, 'cello, at the 15th annual reunion, Grand View Park, Des Moines, Iowa, Aug. 21, 1932.)



BELFAST DURING THE REVOLUTION

Among the most decided in resistance to the oppressive acts of British domination were the Scotch-Irish colonists. The encroachments upon the civil and religious rights of their fathers in the mother country prepared them to espouse, and steadily to maintain, the cause of American Independence, (Parkers' Hist. Londonderry, 102). Although dwelling within a few miles of Ft. Pownell, whose officers were loyal to the Crown, the people of Belfast did not hesitate, at an early period of the Revolution, to take an open stand for liberty. The War message from Lexington, which, in the language of Bancroft, "was never suffered to droop, till it had been borne north, and south, east and west throughout the land" "and spread over the bays that receive the Saco and the Penobscot," soon breathed its inspiring word to our wilderness settlement. At the first town meeting after the important events of 1775, a committee of safety and inspection was chosen, consisting of John Tufft, John Brown, Solon Stevenson, James Patterson, and Samuel Houston. The new Government of Massachusetts was promptly recognized. During this year Ft. Pownell was dismantled by Capt. Mowatt. who was also credited with other deeds of traitorous destruction.

"In the summer of 1775," relates John Davidson, "my neighbor Durham came to my house reporting he had seen red coats with glistening guns in his field, as soon as the men came near enough to be recognized. I knew two of them, viz., Capt. Shute, of Sandy Point, and a Mr. Black, his neighbor, There were twelve red coats, British prisoners, who were taken further east. (They had been taken prisoners at Machias and were delivered to General Washington, at Cambridge. The question as to the treatment to be accorded to these led to the memorable correspondence upon the subject between Washington and the British commander, Gage.-Drake's Life of Knox. 19) and were on their way to Boston. They were brought here by Captain Shute, Mr. Black, and another man. John Durham Jr., Samuel Mitchell, and myself, took them in a boat, and carried them to Camden. We there sat in the stern of the boat. with our guns in good order and loaded. No doubt the prisoners could have taken us, as they probably had each a knife, had they attempted it. Some of them appeared cross and illnatured, but they made no attempt to go from us. When we reached Camden, we delivered them to Minard, (Probably Major William Minot, a prominent citizen of Camden) to be sent to neadquarters, (Davidson's Narrative),



During the summer of 1777, in consequence of an attack by the British upon Machias, several companies of militia were ordered there for protection against future aggression. In the "muster-roll of the detachment of Colonel Brewer's regiment, under the command of Captain Gilman, from Aug. 18 to Sept. 17," appear the names of Tolford Durham, Lieutenant, whose pay as allowed was £8 2s, and John Durham, David Gilmore, and James Miller, privates, £2 each for one month's pay. (Muster roll in Secretary's office, Boston.) This was the full quota of Belfast.

In 1778, the inhabitants voted unanimously to approve and adopt the Constitution which the Massachusetts colony had prepared for acceptance. But the measure was rejected throughout the province, and no organized government existed until two years later. "In Sept. 1778," says Davidson, "a report was brought by two friendly Indians to our field officers that Indians and Tories, commanded by the British, were coming down three rivers, viz., St. John, Penobscot, and Kennebec. But such proved to be a false report." (Davidson's Narrative.)

The British still continued to harass the inhabitants and issued an oath of allegiance to the British Crown, namely King George III, King of Great Britain, France, Ireland, and of the Colonies of North America, now falsely calling themselves the United States of America, etc., etc., All this I swear, etc., etc., Most of the inhabitants of Belfast fled for other parts. Those who remained were threatened and coerced into signing the oath as a measure of safety, against their will.



NOW AN OLD BRICK HOUSE

A recent trip to the old homestead now reveals a sad con-The house, built by Hiram F. Durham (my father) in 1874, now in a dilapidated condition, and the barn, built by his father at an earlier date, are all the buildings left of what was, in the long ago, a happy home, where I spent 19 years of my young life. The old brick house showed no signs of lite: no one there to welcome us. The house was securely locked, and a notice on one door read, "this property is insured against trespassers by Wallaces' Farmer and Homestead Co." The Des Moines river bank has washed away to the extent of 150 feet or more, necessitating a span of bridge on the south end. The Wabash railroad company riprapped the bank above the bridge and made other precautions to stop the wash or the house would have gone in the river 20 years or more ago. As it is, the bank is 25 or 30 feet from the house now. The shingles are mostly gone on the west side, makes one wonder if it has ever been reshingled.

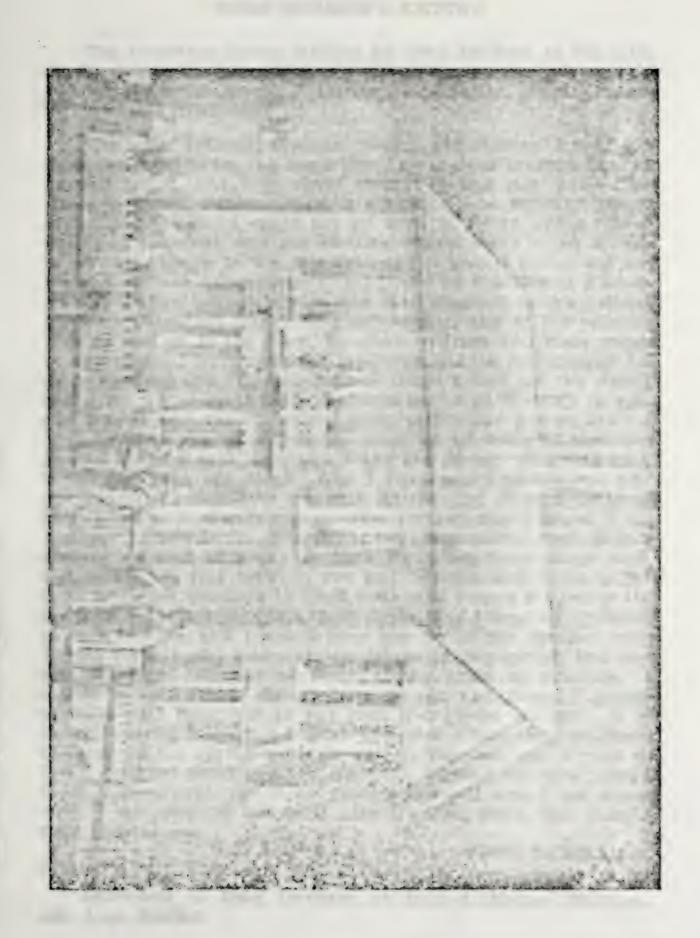
We drove to the Eureka cemetery, where so many of our kin have been laid to rest. Grandpa and three of his sons and many of their descendants have been buried there, also my mother's father, John Lee.

Then we returned to the home of J. P. Durham, near Iola school, where his wife, Julia, is seriously ill and J. P. is poorly, also.

Mrs. Durham and our two daughters. Blanche Risinger and Lora M. Davey, with Derby Davey as driver, made up the delegation.—W. B. D.

In the picture of the old homestead on opposite page are: Left to right, Hiram F. Durham; Elizabeth; on barrel in front, D. Russell; on portico Wm B; Annie May and N. Jane Durham near the window directly behind one of the men.







JOHN DURHAM'S LETTER

The following letter, written by John Durham to his father, illustrates the privations occasioned by the war. I received the original from Joseph J. Durham, of Chelsea, Mass. (Joseph Williamson) (Hist. Belfast).

The letter follows: Honored Father and Mother. I send you these few lines to let you know that I am well at present, blessed be God for it, and hope these lines will find you well. times is grown harder, there is nothing to be bought without giving big prices. I could not git corn in Derry under fifteen Shillings a bushel, and the hauling would make it, as it was in Newbry, which is Twenty Shillings a bushel and I did not bie any, for the Congress has rated corn at 8 Shillings a bushel, and if they can make the acts take place, it is the opinion of every body that things will be cheaper; and in the country it is as bad as in the town, for they will not sell their goods at any rate. I have sold the land you had in Newchester for three hundred and fifty dollars, and taken a note for the money and given an obligation for the deed and sent it down to you, and I have sent the obligation down to you for you to draw a deed by, and you must get the deed up as soon as possible. Joshua Tolford said he would leave the money with Hemphill if the deed was not come. And I have sent one hondred and one quarter of rice, and you may let the rest of your children have some of it. Six Pounds powder for you and Tolford, 1 ax. 1 pound of powder, 5 (illegible); two Ahnanacks, four papers needles 10 roes of pins, let Miss Patterson have three roes, and divide the rest between you and Tolford, and there is but little to be got nowdays by hard work, and I have a mind to try my luck at privateering one short Cruse, and I hope to get home in four Months, and I would have you try if you can get John Barnet to help you make up the fences in the spring, and pay him in grain, and sow as much spring grain as possible. I intend to send fifteen dolars down to you and fifteen I intend to leave with Hemphill, to buy corn if it grows cheaper. It is in me to write more, but I leave you to God and your prudence to carry on the spring work as well as you can, and I trust in God I shall get home in a few months. I would not have Joseph to be discouraged, for if he carry's on well and I get home well, I will reward him well. So I ad: no: more, but remain your Dutiful son.

JJOHN: DURHAM.

Newbury Port, February, 24th, 1778.

Addressed to John Durham, at Belfast, Maine.—William-son, Hist. Belfast.



SKETCH

Owing to the lack of space we are obliged to omit much of the privations and hardships of our forebears on the settling of a new country both before and after the Revolution: however we herewith enumerate a few incidents after the war: In June 1779 a British force took possession of Maja-Bagaduce. And as will appear in another chapter, nearly all the people of Belfast subscribed to the oath of allegiance to Great Britain, as a condition of safety, yet after the defeat of the ill-fated Penobscot expedition, in August of that year, they abandoned their homes, and sought refuge beyond the reach of the enemy. The municipal organization was suspended until after peace.

In 1784, doubts having arisen as to the legality of resuming municipal government without additional legislative authority, the following petition was signed by several of the inhabitants:

TO THE HONORABLE SENATE AND HOUSE OF REPRE-SENTATIVES IN GENERAL COURT ASSEMBLED:

The Petition of the inhabitants of Belfast, in the County of Lincoln and in the Commonwealth of ye Massachusetts. Humbly Sheweth that upon the Enemy's taking Post at Machabagaduce. That we were under the necessety to leave our Places and move off, and is now Begun to Return, and as we have held no annual Town meeting since the year 1779, and is at present but a small party, not more than Fourteen Families, and thinks we are Destitute of Power to Hold Town Meetings according to Law, Therefore we Pray your Honours to take us under consideration, and give us Directions How to Proceed in regard to the same, so that we may Hold Town Meetings as Formerly. And as in Duty Bound shall ever Pray.

N. B. We would acquaint your Honours that we Did not Receive your orders to give in a valuation of our Estate Real and Personal with the Number of our People until ye. 9 of November.

Belfast, ye. 18 Nov. 1784.

JOHN COCHRAN. BENJAMIN NESMETH. SAMUEL HOUSTON. ROBERT PATTERSON. JAMES PATTERSON. NATHANIEL PATTERSON. JAMES MILLER.

WILLIAM PATTERSON. JOHN BROWN JOHN GILMORE TOLFORD DURHAM. JOHN DURHAM.



On the twenty-fourth of Feb. the following resolve passed both branches:

Resolve on the petition of the inhabitants of the town of Belfast, authorising Jon. Buck Esq., to issue his warrent for the purpose mentioned.

Whereas, it appears to this Court that, from the events of the late war, the inhabitants of the town of Belfast, in the County of Lincoln, were obliged to abandon their dwellings, and for a number of years seek refuge in the western parts of this Commonwealth and by that means have been deprived of the legal methol of calling town meetings for transacting public business of the same town,—

Therefore, Resolved, that Jon. Buck, Esq., be and he is hereby, authorized and empowered to issue his warrent to some prominent person authorizing him to call a meeting for the purpose of choosing such necessary officers as were necessary to conduct the business of the town according to Law, in the Month of March annually.

In accordance with this resolve, Mr. Buck issued the order, or warrent to John Tuft, as follows:

The warrant was accordingly issued to the said John Tuft, and the town of Belfast, Maine, was finally, after a period of six years, restored to a municipal government.

After the reconstruction of the town, the matter of taxation again became agitated, and a second petition upon the subject was presented:

That we the long depressed inhabitants of Belfast beg leave to inform this Honorable Court that it is but two years since a number of the inhabitants returned to this town, and some but one year; our ordinary houses gone to destruction; our fences entirely ruined; our land grown over to brush. Numbers of these families have neither Ox or Cow to this day, and some have been obliged to carry out a Sloop load of wood on their shoulders to purchase ye necessary Comforts of life. And such is our Circumstances at this time that we have no Commodity for a Market but Cordwood; and that will fetch money at any price. There are some in this town that can assure this Honorable Court that they have not had Two Dollars of their own for two years past.

We are not pleading from any unwillingness to pay Taxes; for we are entirely willing to do all we can to pay the Public Charges But as there is no Currency among us, we beg that



this Honorable Court would take these our distressed Circumstances into their most serious Consideration, and spare us from Public taxes for sometime, as your wisdom shall see fit, and our distressing circumstances Call for; This Honorable Court Granting a Gracious hearing to our Humble Petition. Your Petitioners as in duty bound shall ever Pray.

Belfast, July 12, 1786.

JOHN TUFT.
SOLON STEPHENSON.
JOHN DURHAM.
TOLFORD DURHAM.
SAM'L. McKEEN.
JAMES PATTERSON.

JOHN COCHRAN.
JOHN BROWN.
SAML. HOUSTON.
ROBT. PATTERSON.
WM. PATTERSON.

This petition met with the following response from the General Court:

November 11, 1786.

On petition of the inhabitants of the town of Belfast, showing that during the late war they were obliged from their exposed situation to the enemy, to desert their possessions, and suffered great loss in their interest, whereby they are rendered unable to pay the public taxes assessed to them, and praying for the remission of the said taxes: Accordingly the said tax was declared exempted, except the tax assessed the last previous March, and the treasurer notified accordingly.

In a few years two Meeting Houses were built, and the public taxed for the same.

A man to become a resident of Belfast was required to give satisfactory evidence of Good Character before being admitted.

And if a man or family appeared liable to become a public charge, he was rejected and warned to leave.

-Hist. Belfast by Williamson.



JAMES DURHAM

James Durham, born June 6, 1785, son of Tolford and Jane B. Durham. His first wife was a McCrillis. Their only child, Nancy, married a Forbes, and their children were Mary D. Forbes, of Belfast. Maine(now in her seventies), and James Forbes, deceased, of Bridgewater, Mass.

James Forbes had two children, Ralph and Albert, P. O. Bridgewater, Mass.

James Durham's second wife was a Betsy Mathews (sister of Joseph). Their children were Sarah, Tolford (who took the trip to California in 1849 from Durham's Ford), Mary, Frank Fred and Amanda.

Sarah married Leander Mathews. Their children were Wm. Addie and Frank. William only was married and has two children, one boy and one girl, somewhere in middle west.

Tolford married Caroline Merithew. Their children were: Charles, college graduate, deceased, Albert F., and Le Roy, college graduate, deceased.

Caroline, daughter of James Durham, married Manter Dolloff, of Gardner, Maine. They have two sons and one daughter.

Albert F. married and lives at Monroe, Maine. His children were: Victor, lieutenant in late war, deceased; Caroline, nurse at Bangor, Maine; Charles, college graduate, accountant, Seattle, Washington.

Mary, daughter of James Durham, married Lorenzo Moore (brother of John). Their only child, Elizabeth D., unmarried, is a stenographer in Boston; address 158 Myrtle Street, Melrose, Mass.

Frank, son of James Durham, married Sarah White and lived in Belfast. Their children were: Frank, deceased; William, stock buyer, Kansas City, Mo.; James C., bank director, Belfast, Maine.

Annie married Benj. Hazletine.

Lena married Starrell.

Frank married unknown.

Fred and Amanda, children of James Durham, were unmarried.



Descendants of Margret Durham, born June 8, 1794, daughter of Tolford and Jane B. Durham.

Margret married Joseph Mathews (brother of Betsy, wife of James). Their children were:

Jane, married John Moore, brother of Lorenzo.

Their children were:

Fred J., deceased.

Emma J.

Frank A., deceased.

Clarence, deceased.

Margret P. Waite, widow, R1, Box 514, Los Angeles.

Clarence J., deceased.

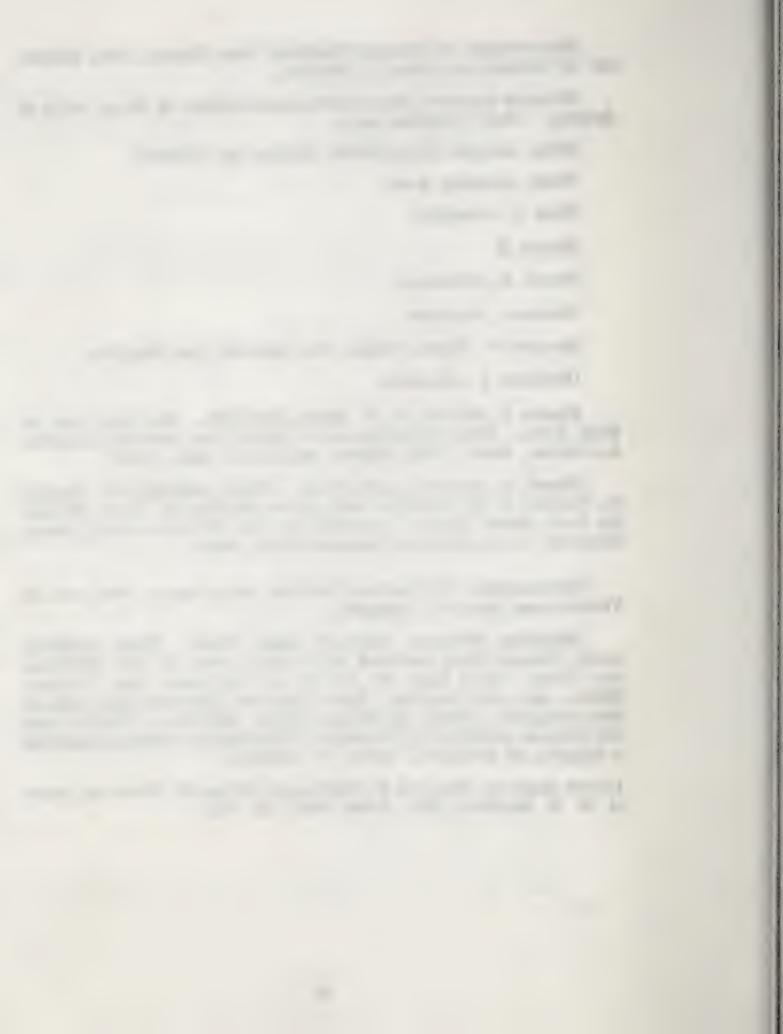
Emma J. married N. F. Mayo, deceased. She now lives at Sola, Cuba. Their children were: Edith Jane, married Knights, Lexington, Mass.; John Alden, unmarried, Sola, Cuba.

Frank A. married Alice Field. Their children are: Gladys E., teacher, P. O. Franklin Park, Mass., Esther M., nurse, Franklin Park, Mass., John F., married, one son, Franklin Park, Mass., Margret P., at school at Franklin Park, Mass.

Descendants of Jonathan Durham, born May 9, 1802, son of Tolford and Jane B. Durham.

Jonathan Durham, married Susan Field. Their children were: Susan Jane, married a Pringree, two of their children are living, (Miss Mary D. Forbes, of Northport Ave., Belfast, Maine, can give details); Mary Eleanor, married Benj. Black. one daughter, Edith, is living; Sarah married a Fuller and has several children in the state of Washington; Georgia married a Knight, of Bridgton, Maine, no children.

(Notes made by Margret P. Waite and Clifton M. Moore at home of W. B. Durham, Milo, Iowa, Sept. 20, 1923.



FROM "MASSACHUSETTS SOLDIERS AND SAILORS OF THE REVOLUTIONARY WAR."

VOL. V. PAGE 87.

John Durham, private Capt. Andrew Grant's detachment from Col. Josiah Brewsters' Regt., enlisted Aug. 18, 1777, service to Sept. 1, 1777, detachment marched to assistance of Machias, Roll Penobscot.

VOL. V. PAGE 88.

Tolford Durham, 2d. Lieut., Capt. Sam'l Houston's Co., Col. Joshua Brewster's (Penobscot) Regt.; list of officers to be commissioned as returned by Josiah Brewster & others, field officers—dated Penobscot July 1, 1776, ordered in council July 20, 1776, that commissions be issued; reported commissioned July 20, 1776.

Tolford Durham. Lieut., Capt. Andrew Grant's detachment from Col. Josiah Brewster's regt.; engaged Aug. 18, 1777, service to Sept. 16, 1777, 30 days; detachment marched to the assistance of Machias, Roll dated Penobscot.

FROM "HISTORY OF MORRISON FAMILY"

Page 84. The muster rell of Lieut. Samuel Morrison party of men in Capt. McNutt's C. N. H. Regt. at the capture of Louisburg, N. S. July 26, 1758, contains the name of John Durham.

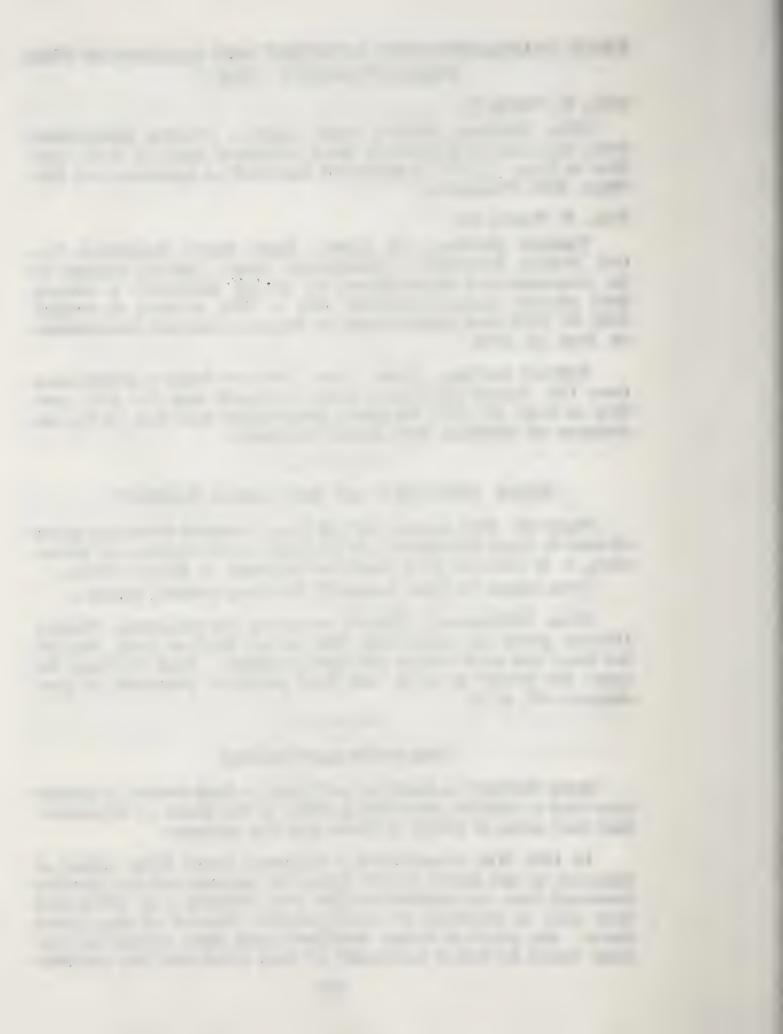
(The above by Mrs. James C. Durham, Belfast, Maine.)

From Williamson's History we clean the following: White's History gives the following: The lot of Mathew Reid, No. 31, lay near the east end of the lower bridge. John Durham became the owner in 1772, and Reid probably returned to Londonary.—W. B. D.

TOLFORD GENEALOGY

John Tolford: a resident of Wales, a land owner, a gentleman and a scholar; his wife a niece of the Duke of Hamilton; had four sons, of which William was the youngest.

In 1690 Wm. commanded a regiment under King James of England at the Battle of the Boyne in Ireland and his services rendered him so conspicuous he was continued in office and sent over to Scotland to attend to the interest of the crown there. He married Susan McGinnis and they moved to Ireland where he had a patrimony of land given him for patriotic



services in the King's behalf. He was offered a Knighthood, which he declined. They had three sons: John, William and David. Colonel William Tolford resided at Magillan, 16 miles north of Londondary, where he died of cholera.

John Tolford, born May 9, 1700, his eldest son, landed in Boston, U. S., Aug. 19, 1717, and three years later settled in Nutfield, afterwards at Chester, on Walnut Hill. The same year his brother Wm. came over and John gave him land on the north adjoining that on which he lived. He died at a ripe old age. Gov. Langdon said: "See that Deacon Tolford's name lives forever in the memory of his countrymen."

David remained in England, was captain of the King's Barge at London, where he lived and died a rich old bachelor and a gay gent.

"I am quite convinced that Mary Tolford, who married John Durham in 1739, was in all probability a sister of John and William Tolford above."—Mrs. James C. Durham, Belfast, Maine, U. S. A.

DURHAM

John Durham m. Mary Tolford Mar. 6, 1739, (U. S. Bradford, Mass.)

Children: David and Jonathan, b. Dec. 30, 1740.

: Isabella, m. John Barnett 1774 in Belfast Maine.

: Elizabeth, m. Isaac Murray 1774 in Belfast, Maine.

: Tolford, b. 1744, probably at Chester, N. H.

: John, b. 1749; died Oct. 1823; married Elizabeth Brown, 1780.

Tilford Durham: m. Jane Brown Feb. 1, 1758. She died Jan. 22, 1855. He died Nov. 14, 1836 in Belfast Maine.

BROWN

- 1. John Brown.
- John Brown, b. 1732; d. 1817; m. Mary Gilmore 1755, Bradford, Mass. Mary Gilmore, b. 1730; d. 1815.



GILMORE

Robert Gilmore: b. about 1670, near Coleraine, Derry Co., Ireland; m. Mary Ann Kennedy.

Children: Wm. Gilmore, b. 1695; Robert, 1699; John; James

2. Wm. Gilmore: m. Elizabeth ----

Children: Wm., b. 1720; died 1747.

: John, b. 1722,

: Robt., b. 1724.

: Jean, b. 1726.

: Ann. b. 1726.

: James.

: Mary, b. Jan. 8, 1730; m. John Brown.

-By Mrs. J. C. Durham, Belfast, Maine.

GILMORES

James Gilmore, who drew lots No. 19 and 41, settled on the former about 1784, and resided there until his death, Nov. 28, 1809. He was a lieutenant in the Revolution; and his father, Colonel James Gilmore, commanded the eighth New Hampshire regiment. Robert Gilmore, the grandfather of Colonel Gilmore, was born near Colaraine, in Ircland, and emigrated early to Londonary. The children of Lieut. Gilmore, as disclosed by the town records, were:

Nancy, born May 15, 1791.

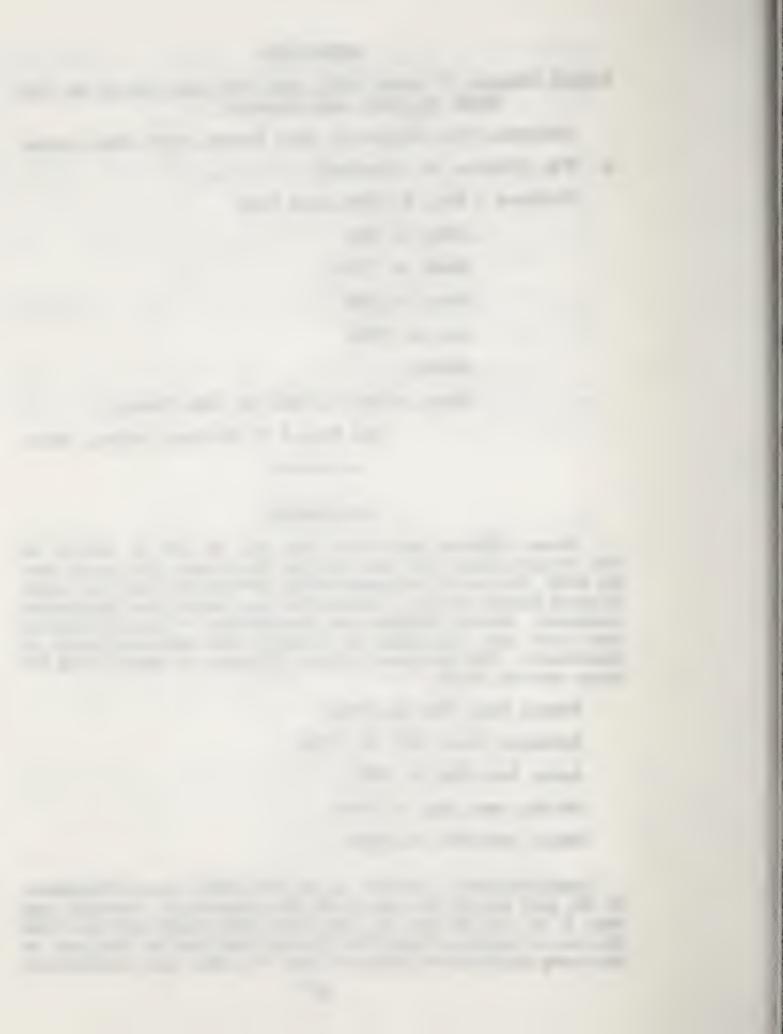
Nathaniel, born Feb. 10, 1794.

Anna, born May 5, 1797.

Martin, born Aug. 2, 1799.

Betsy, born Feb. 19, 1803.

John Gilmore, a brother of the foregoing, was of Windham. N. H., and owned five shares in the proprietary, drawing lots Nos. 8, 14, 15, 25, and 33. His son, John, came here in 1784. He was a deacon of the First Church, and died in that part of the town included in Searsport, Apr. 16, 1845, aged eighty-four.



According to the town records, the children of John Gilmore, last named, and Margret, his wife, were as follows:

Nancy, born Nov. 1, 1788.
Samuel, born Jan. 20, 1791.
James, born Apr. 21, 1793.
John, born Feb. 12, 1795.
Polly, born Apr. 1, 1797, died Apr. 4, 1800.
Peggy, born Dec. 20, 1798.
Jonathan, born Sept. 3, 1801.
Robert, born Apr. 2, 1804, died Apr. 7, 1804.

1, Parker's History of Londonary, 273. Williamson's History of Belfast. Proprietary Hist. Belfast.

We find the name of John Durham, and also that of John Brown as having drawn lots at the meeting held on Oct. fourth. 1768, among the first thirty-five lots drawn in the town of Belfast, Maine. Mr. Durham (who came from Ireland) drew lot No. nine, and Mr. Brown lot No. 18, in the first division. Mr. D's. lot contained 1071 A. and Mr. B's lot 1021 acres.

Certain trees being used for land marks made the size of the lots vary.

Although Mitchell was the largest owner, and has been usually regarded as the originator of the town, this claim seems to have been shared by others. A vote of the proprietors, passed Mar. S, 1760, gives ten dollars to John Gilmore, and John Steele "for their first discovery of the land;" but at the next meeting this vote was modified by allowing Gilmore thirteen dollars instead of ten "for his finding out said tract, and that John Steele shall have nothing."

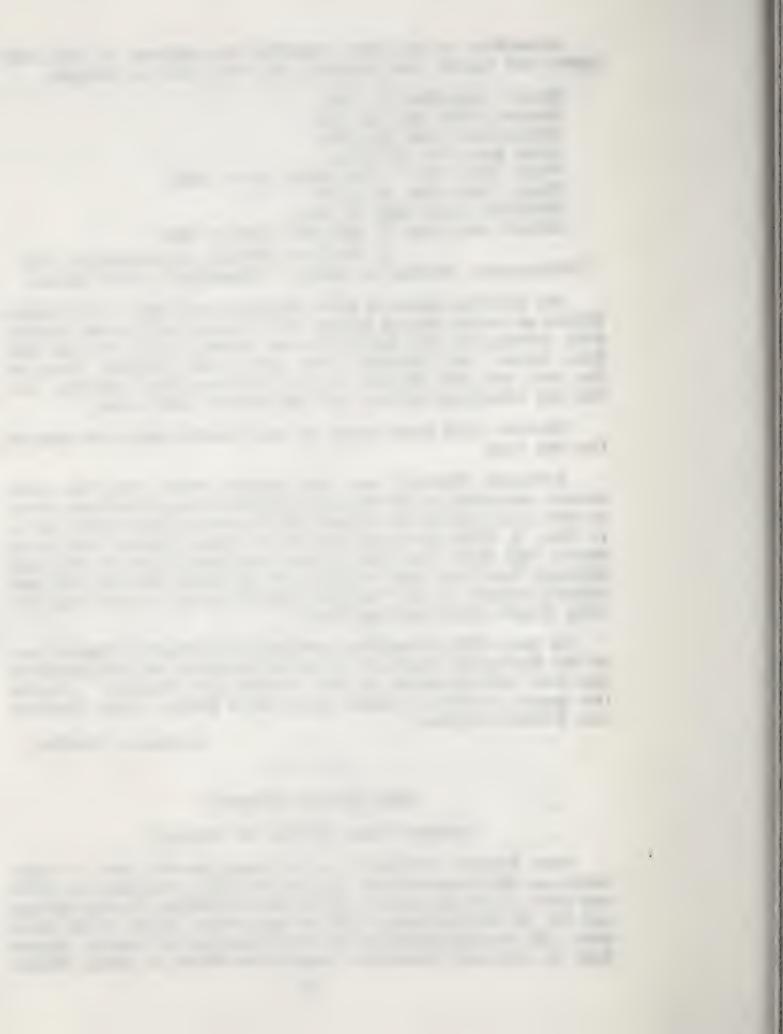
In Aug. 1779, when the town was abandoned through fear of the British it contained "eighteen families and one hundred and nine persons, most of them women and children." Among the heads of these families were John Brown, John Durham and Tolford Durham.

History of Belfast.

THE BROWN FAMILY

(Copied from History of Belfast)

John Brown, probably a son of John Brown, who is registered on the Londonderry tax list of 1750, was born in 1732, and came here the third year of the settlement, having drawn Lot No. 18, where George Gilmore now lives, in the First Division. He was chairman of the first board of selectmen, chosen Nov. 11, 1773 and repeatedly held other offices of trust. While



residing in Londonderry, he had been a commissioned officer of the Provincial army, and served in the French war. He was a man of great vigor, energy, and honesty. He died here, May 13. 1817, aged eighty-two years, and is buried in the east graveyard. His family consisted of one son and eight daughters, as follows:

- 1. Jane, born Feb. 1, 1758, married Tolford Durham, and died Feb. 9, 1855, aged ninety-seven years.
- 2. Elizabeth, born Feb. 1760, married John Durham, and died July 8, 1853, aged ninety-three years.
 - 3. John, born 1763, died Oct. 1824, aged sixty-one years.
 - 4. Mary, married Ebenezer Buck.
- 5. Ann, born March 18, 1766, married Henry Black, of Prospect. She died July 21, 1857, aged ninety-one years.
- 6. Rebecca, born 1768, married James Black. She died July 28, 1858, aged ninety years.
- 7. Jennett, born 1770, married Caleb Stevenson, and died at Knox, Dec. 29, 1850, aged eighty-nine years.
- 8. Peggy, married William Houston. She died about 1814. aged about forty years.
- 9. Hannah, married Joseph Houston, and died Nov. 18. 1834, aged fifty-nine years.

JOHN DURHAM

(From History of Belfast, Maine)

John Durham, the owner of Lot No. 9, arrived June 24, 1773, accompanied by his sons, Tolford, aged twenty-seven years, and John, who was five years younger. He was one of the two town wardens, chosen at the organization in 1773. During the Revolution, he went to Thomaston, or St. George, where he died, probably about 1788.

Tolford, his eldest son, born in Chester, N. II., in 1744, moved with his father's family to Londonderry when a boy. For several years he followed the sea. In 1779 he built a log hut on Lot No. 31, opposite the house now occupied by his descendants, and married Jane, daughter of John Brown. Their acquaintance commenced here. Mr. Durham was commissioned as a lieutenant of militia soon after the incorporation of the town. He is erroneously supposed by White to have had



charge of a company during the Revolution. It is certain, however, that he participated in the ill-fated Penobscot expedition. Early in this century he held various municipal offices. He became a member of the First Church in 1799, was chosen deacon the year following, and held the position during his life. In 1795, he was appointed postmaster. During his official term, the office was kept in his house on the east side of the river. He was one of the managers whose aid secured the East Bridge, and succeeded Jonathan Wilson as toll-gatherer. Deacon Durham died Nov. 13, 1836, aged ninety-two. Mr. White refers to him as "in his eighty-second year, enjoying good health, and all the native energies of his mind." His wife survived him until Feb. 9, 1855.

Their children were as follows:

Mary, born Aug. 20, 1778, died Aug. 14, 1780.

William, born Oct. 29, 1780.

John, born Mar. 8, 1783.

James, born June 6, 1785, died June 19, 1875.

Jean, born Sept. 23, 1787.

Mary (2d), born Apr. 7, 1790.

David, born July 7, 1792, died in Iowa, 1866.

Margret, born July 8, 1794.

Sally, born Dec. 13, 1796, died July 23, 1803.

Joshua Tolford, born Jan 12, 1799, died July 27, 1802.

Jonathan, born May 9, 1802.



DURHAM FAMILY RECORD

John Durham : Who came from Ireland.

: Married to Mary Tolford, Mar. 6, 1739 (U. S.

Bradford, Mass.)

Mary Tolford : Born

Children: David and Jonathan, born Dec. 30, 1740.

: Isabella to John Barnett 1774, Belfast, Maine.
: Elizabeth to Isaac Murry 1774, Belfast, Me.
: Tolford D. 1744, died Nov. 13, 1836, aged 92.

: John D. 1749.

Tolford Durham: 1744.

to : Belfast, Maine.

Jane Brown : Feb. 1, 1758, died Feb. 9, 1855, aged 97.

Children : Mary, born Aug. 20, 1778, died Aug. 14, 1780.

: William, Oct. 29, 1780. : John, Mar. 8, 1783. : James, June 6, 1785. : Jean, Sept. 23, 1787. : Mary 2d, April 7, 1790.

: David, July 7, 1792, Belfast, Maine.

: Margret, July 8, 1794.

: Sally, Dec. 13, 1796, died July 23, 1803. : Joshua Tolford, Jan. 12, 1799, died July 27,

1802.

: Jonathan, May 9, 1802.

John Durham 2d: 1749, died Oct. 25, 1823. to: Dec. 1780, Belfast, Maine.

Elizabeth Brown: Born, Feb. 1760, died July 8, 1853, aged 93

years.

Children: John, Sept. 29, 1781.

: David, April 19, 1783, died Sept. 8, 1857.

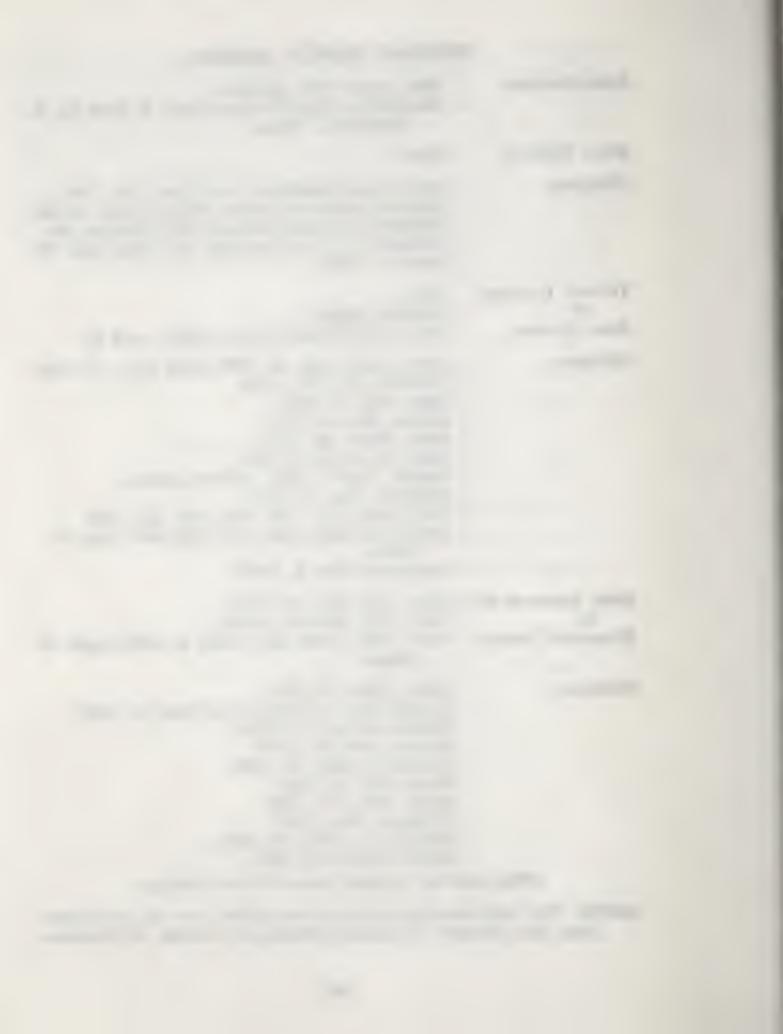
: Elizabeth, Apr. 8, 1785.: James, June 22, 1787.: Jonathan, Apr. 26, 1790.

: Mary, Feb. 4, 1793.: Anna, Dec. 17, 1795.: William, Dec. 1798.

: Isabella B., Dec. 12, 1801. : Sarah, April 22, 1804.

(We have no further trace of this family.)

NOTE: The information as above was taken for the most part from the History of Belfast, Maine, by Joseph Williamson.



DAVID DURHAM

Born in Belfast, Maine, July 7, 1792. Son of Tolford and Jane (Brown) Durham, of Belfast, Maine, U. S. A.

We quote the following from "Pioneers of Marion County," by Wm. M. Dounell:

Most distinguished among those who settled in the (Clay) township in 1843, was David Durham, a brief sketch of whom may be in order here: Mr. Durham was born in Belfast, Maine, July 7, 1792, and immigrated to Ohio in 1828. He started on the third day of September and reached Beavertown, Morgan County. Ohio, on the tenth of October, where he located and opened a farm. But after being engaged in this business four or five years, he went to the salt works on the Muskingum river and engaged as a laborer to Sennet Ramey, who a year or two later, appointed him superintendent of his salt works. After serving in this capacity for some time, he purchased an establishment and went into the salt business on his own account, but owing to the plentifulness of the commodity, together with limited means of shipping it down the Muskingum in scows and canoes, and transporting on land in wagons, the basiness proved unprofitable, so he discontinued the enter-This was in 1836, when money matters became close prise. and precarious. He then engaged in transporting flour and salt to and from Zanesville by flat boats and scows. Early in the year '37 he moved to Zanesville, where he engaged in various occupations till the autumn of that year, when he moved to McLean County, Illinois. But being unable to settle there as he desired, with a large family, he moved again in the spring following, and stopped in what is now Jefferson County, Iowa, Here his companion, Nancy Durham, who had shared his varied fortunes for more than twenty years, died April 13, 1839. After about five years residence in that locality, Mr. Durham moved to Clay Township (or what is now Clay Township), where he took and occupied a claim till he secured a title from the Government in 1847.

During his residence here, Mr. Durham was elected a member of the board of County Commissioners, as stated in another place, and carried the first mail from Oskaloosa to Knoxville. After a long and somewhat eventful life, attended with many conflicts with fickle fortune, having at last secured a competence and a resting place for himself and children, he departed this life March 15, 1866, aged 73 years, 8 months and 8 days.

Mr. Durham was much respected for his noble traits of character, being of an amiable disposition, kind and obliging to all who had occasion to apply to him for help in a time of





MK. AND MRS. DAVID DURHAM



need. His departure was therefore lamented by a numerous circle of friends and acquaintances, but not as those who have no hope.—(Pioneers of Marion County, Page 127-8).

At the first election in the duly organized county of Marion, David Durham was elected County Commissioner. Date of this election was the first Monday in September, 1845. The first meeting of this board was a called session, held at the County Seat of Justice (Knoxville) on the 12th day of Sept. 1845, in the Territorial State of Iowa. Met in the capacity of the Commissioners Court of said County, the house in which the meeting was held is described as a "claim pen", made of Linn poles, about 12 by 16 ft. square, chinked and daubed in the usual manner of enclosing such buildings, covered with "Clapboards" and a square hole cut in the side wall for a window, that could boast of neither sash nor glass.

At the second election, held Aug. 3, 1846, Mr. Durham was re-elected County Commissioner. At this election there were six candidates; out of the 295 votes cast, Mr. Durham received 153.

(Copy)

Contract Office

POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT

Aug. 14, 1846.

SIR:

Your bid of \$72.50 upon Route No. 4589, From Oskaloosa, Iowa to Knoxville, has been accepted by the Postmaster General. Contracts will be forwarded in due time. Service is to commence without delay.

You will request the Postmasters at the ends of the route to transmit a certificate of the commencement of service.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

L. N. HOBLIN,
First Assistant Postmaster General.

Mr. David Durham, Knoxville,

Marion Co. Iowa, Ty.

The foregoing copy was duly received by the said David Durham.

(Copy made by W. B. D.)



BILL OF LADING

Keokuk, Ia. May 18, 1858.

Shipped. IN GOOD ORDER AND WELL CONDITIONED. by T. I. McKenny on board the steamboat Clara Hine & Barge whereof is Master for the present voyage, the articles marked and numbered as below, which are to be delivered in like good order and condition, (the damage of the river navigation and fire only excepted) at the Port of Durham's Landing unto H. I. Scoles or assigns, he or they paying freight of said goods at the rate of 65 cts per 100 lbs.

In Witness Whereof, the Owner, Master, or clerk of said Steamboat hath affirmed to three Bills of Lading, all of this tenor and date, one of which being accomplished, the others to stand void.

Wt. Rate H. I. Scoles 50 22 \$1.72 Boxes Drugs E. Salts 80 20 .44 2.16 (Signed) MARTIN.

DAVID DURHAM

(The Following Taken From the Family Bible)

married to

David Durham: July 7, 1792. Son of Tolford Durham and

Jane (Brown) Durham. Nancy Clements: In Frankfort, Maine in 1818. Born in Somersworth, N. H.

Children:

: Charles H. Durham, March 16, 1819, Mon-

roe. Maine. Died in infancy.

David Tolford Durham, Feb. 26, 1821.

: Margret Durham, Feb. 17, 1823. Charles Hall Durham, July 30, 1825. : Eliza Jane Durham, April 20, 1828.

Foster Edward Durham, July 22, 1828, Dear-

field. Ohio.

Sarah Ann Durham, Sept. 6, 1832, York Twp.

Morgan Co., Ohio,

Hiram Fuller Durham, Jun. 3, 1835, Bloom

Twp. Morgan Co., Ohio.

: George Washington Durham, Feb. 22, 1838, Wainesville, Ill.

Marriages

David T. Durham

married to : May 25, 1847, Marion Co., Iowa.

Lucretia E. Evans:



Margret Durham :

married to : Dec. 29, 1849, Marion Co., Iowa.

James M. Arnold

David Durham : Son of Tolford and Jane (Brown) Dur-

married to: ham. Aug. 4, 1850, Marion Co. Iowa, second

Jonanna Silvers : marriage.

Foster E. Durham

married to : July 1, 1852, Marion Co. Iowa.

Elizabeth M. Harsin:

Charles H. Durham :

married to : Aug. 4, 1852, Marion Co. Iowa.

Julia Cooper

Eliza Jane Durham:

married to : Feb. 26, 1852, Marion Co. Iowa.

David D. Miller :

Hiram F. Durham

married to : Nov. 10, 1861, Marion Co. Iowa.

Elizabeth Lee :

Sarah Ann Durham:

married to : Sept. 10, 1858, Marion Co. Iowa.

Leonard L. Iler

Geo. W. Durham

married to : Sept. 10, 1865, Marion Co. Iowa.

Malinda Lee

DAVID T. DURHAM

(The following copy was made from the data collected by H. B. Durham, of Casper, Wyo.)

Copy of statement in D. T. Durham's hand writing in possession of J. P. Durham, Durham, Iowa.

Written probably about 1875.

- 1. David T. Durham.
- 2. My mother's maiden name was Nancy Clements, and her mother's Hill, of the state of N. H., related to the late Hon. Isaac Hill of New Hampshire.

My father's name was David Durham, and my grandmother's name was Brown, all of Irish ancestry—their parents having all emigrated from Ireland, but they were born in the United



States. They came from Belfast, Ireland, and settled in what was then (about the year 1720) the province of Maine, and with others established the town of Belfast in that state, at which my father was born, in the year 1792. My mother was born in the town of Frankfort, Me., in the year 1799, at which place her parents settled some time prior, and there the relatives mostly live.

My father's occupation was that of a farmer. I was born in the town of Monroe, Waldo Co., Me., Febr. 26, 1821. I am the oldest of four brothers and three sisters, all of whom are now living except one sister, who died one year ago. All live in Marion Co.(Iowa), except one brother and one sister in Lucas Co.(Iowa).

The first twelve years of my life were spent on the farm, after which my father engaged in the Mfg. of salt, in Morgan Co., Ohio, on the Muskingum river. Four years after when in the year 1837, we moved to the west, stopping the winter of 37-38 in Illinois, and in the spring of 1838 crossing the Miss. (river) into the Territory of Wisconsin, settling in what is now Jefferson Co. (lowa), then an attached part of Henry Co., since which time, my occupation has been that of a tarmer.

In the early years of my life I had the benefit of the common school, and for some months a high school, but emigrating to the west at the age of 16, and before there were schools established, deprived me of the advantage of a classical education.

Having settled in Iowa, as above stated, at the age of 16 in Jefferson Co. I remained there till the spring of 1842. In the autumn of 1842 a treaty was made with the Indians, by which the territory west was ceded to the U.S. The first day of May 1843 (the date of taking effect of the treaty) I made my location in what is now the county of Marion, where I still live.

I married in the year 1847 Lucretia E. Evans, of Wapello Co., lowa. We have reared a family of ten children, all living at this time.

Having a large family dependent, at the suggestion of friends, I did not go to the army, believing I could render some service to my country by aiding to the extent of my ability the families of my friends and neighbors, who helped to make up the noble army of lowa soldiers.

Political Record

In the memorable Political campaign of 1840 I espoused the cause of the Whig party, but this state being in a territorial



condition we could take no part, except locally. In the fall of 1845 when the county of Marion was organized my friends saw proper to elect me to the office of county Treas, and re-elected in 1846 at the expiration of which term I declined to be a candidate.

In 1848 my name was placed on the Whig ticket for one of the representatives of a district composed of Marion, Jasper. Polk and Dallas counties, and all of the unorganized territory west of Marion and Dallas. The Whig party being in the minority in the district caused the defeat of the ticket.

of Supervisors in my county I filled no official place until the year 1868 I was elected Representative in my county to fill a vacancy. In 1869 was re-elected Representative to the 13th General Assembly and again in 1872 re-elected a member of the 14th General Assembly.

I am a member of the Methodist Church. There are a great many incidents with which I was connected in the early history of the state but I think of nothing particular worthy of note. My weight is 160 lbs.; height 5 feet, 9 inches; color of hair. dark brown; color of eyes, dark gray.

(End of Statement)

J. P. Durham says that the sister that is referred to in the above statement as being dead is Mrs. Sarah Ann D. Her, and that she died about 1880. He states that George Durham, son of D. T. Durham, was teaching school in the neighborhood when she died. George Durham died in 1881.

(The above taken from the collections of H. B. Durham.)

-DAVID TOLFORD DURHAM FAMILY

David T. Durham married to Lucretia E. Evans Children

Monroe, Maine, 1821.

Marion County, May 25, 1847.

George A. Durham, June 6, 1848. D. 1881, Marion County.

Laura A. Durham, Sept. 1849, D. 1901, Marion County.

: Tolford S. Durham, Jan. 6, 1852.

: Mary E. Durham, Feb. 26, 1854, D. 1934, : Marion County.

: Florence M. Durham, Nov. 29, 1855.

: Herbert M. Durham, Feb. 12, 1858, D.

April 29, 1929.

: Alice L. Durham, Dec. 4, 1860.

: Ella May Durham, Aug. 23, 1863.

: James Preston Durham, Mar. 10, 1866.

: Mattle J. Durham, May 3, 1869.



Tolford S. Durham : Marion County, Iowa. : May 21, 1877, Marion County, Iowa, married to Almeda Weigand Children Charles Fletcher Durham, Mar. 14, 1878. Marion County, Iowa, Over Seas, Spanish War, 1898, Hon, Discharge. Harry B. Durham, Feb. 2, 1880, Caloma. Iowa, Lawyer, Casper, Wyo. George A. Durham, Apr. 21, 1882, Calema, Iowa, Died in University Place Nebr., while in school. Frank E. Durham, Nebraska, July 10, 1886. Marion H. Durham, Nebraska, Dec. 9, 1887. Howard A. Durham, Teacher in Lincoln, Nebr., Schools. Spanish War Veteran, Graduate Weslejan. Charles F. Durham married to Dec. 3, 1930. Carrie P. Gibson Harry B. Durham Feb. 2, 1880, Marion County, Iowa. Lawyer, Casper, Wyo. July 28, 1908. married to Ethel M. Simonds Gene M. Durham, Mar. 31, 1914. Children Elizabeth L. Durham, Dec. 8, 1916 Harry B. Jr. Durham, June 5, 1920. Frank E. Durham July 10, 1886, Nebraska. Oct. 18, 1911. married to Evelyn V. Green Katheryn S. Durham, July 24, 1912. Children Frances E. Durham, June 24, 1914. Franklin P. Durham, Dec. 22, 1920. Marion R. Durham June 22, 1913. married to Lorene F. Hunter George R. Durham, Aug. 5, 1917. Children Tolford R. Durham, Aug. 23, 1919. Ralph M. Durham, Dec. 20, 1924. Howard A. Durham Aug. 21, 1919. married to Hazel Griffis : Howard G. Durham, Nov. 20, 1920. Children Almeda J. Durham, Dec. 15, 1921, : Rosemary Durham, Mar. 1, 1925. : Adam F. Durham, June 21, 1926. Virginia R. Durham, Dec. 2, 1928. : Charlet L. Durham, Oct. 14, 1933, : College Course, Simpson, Grinnell and Mary E. Durham Central, School Teacher, D. Dec. 1934. married to : April 19, 1894. Died 1937, Tracy, Iowa. Herschel N. Rouze

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Florence M. Durham: Nov. 29, 1855. School Teacher.
married to : Russell Co., Kansas, April 4, 1886.
Charles V. Houser :
Children : Ada E. Houser, Jan. 23, 1887. D. May 12,

: 1912. : Charles Bert Houser. : Iva E. Houser.

Fredric W. Houser.

: Grace Houser.

Ada E. Houser : Marion County, Iowa.

married to : April 4. 1906, Marion County, Iowa.

Frank P. Brause :

Children : Ralph H. Brause, Oct. 17, 1909. : Leland F. Brause, Oct. 24, 1911.

Ralph H. Brause : married to : June 18, 1938.

Thoron Betterton : Beulah E. Brause, Feb. 15, 1939.

Chas. Bert Houser : Accomplished School Master, Des Moines : High, Died 1936.

married to : June 22, 1917. Venna C. Barthol- : July 30, 1890.

omew : July 30, 1890

Children : Charles B. Houser Jr., Apr 25, 1918. : Robert N. Houser, Sept. 21, 1919. : Keith L. Houser, Aug. 12, 1922. : Virginia R. Houser, Mar. 9, 1924.

Wm. V. Houser, Aug. 1, 1926.

Iva E. Houser : Teacher. married to : Mar. 11, 1920.

R. R. Snow : Children : Herbert R. Snow, Sept. 28, 1922.

Fredric W. Houser:

married to : March 3, 1920.

Jessie Riggle : Fred R. Houser, May 4, 1924.

Children :

Grace Houser : Aug. 20, 1967.

Ferris Spaur : Address, Des Moines, Iowa. Children : Florence Spaur, Oct. 11, 1921.

Herbert M. Durham: Feb. 12, 1860. Died April 29, 1929.

Anna Meeker : Inez Durham.

: Clarence E. Durham.

: Ethel Durham.



Inez F. Durham

married to : Nov. 1, 1931. Kansas.

Norman Spence

Clarence E. Durham:

married to : April 9, 1911.

Josephine Heggy

Children : Clarence E. Durham, Kansas.

Alice Letitia Dur- : Dec. 4, 1860. D. Aug. 12, 1893.

ham

married to

Elsworth Brown

Children : Elsie Rosalie Brown.

Elsie Rosalie Brown:

married to

Elmer Hildebrand

Children : Alice Hildebrand. : Billie Hildebrand.

Ella May Durham : Aug. 23, 1863, Marion County, Iowa.

married to

Harry Derby : Children : David

hildren : David Derby. : Ethel Derby. : Roy Derby. : Mac Derby.

Ethel Derby

married to : 1928.

David Hough

Children : David Rodney Hough, Aug. 1, 1929. : Shirley Mae Hough, Dec. 8, 1930.

James Preston Dur-:

ham : March 10, 1866, Marion County, Iowa.
married to : Feb. 27, 1901, Marion County, Iowa.
Julia Welch : Oct. 14, 1866, Marion County, Iowa.

Children : David E. Durham, July 12, 1905, Marion

County, Iowa.

David E. Durham : July 12, 1905, Marion County, Iowa, married to : April 14, 1928, Marion County, Iowa.

Vera Covey : June 2, 1903.

Children : James Preston Jr., June 29, 1929, Marion

County, Iowa.

Mattie Jane Durham: May 3, 1869, Marion County, Iowa.

married to : March 28, 1889.

Warren Derby :
Children : Millie Elda Derby, April 19, 1898.
: Glen Scott Derby, May 4, 1901.

: George Warren Derby, Aug. 15, 1908.



Millie Elda Derby married to Orville Doyen Children

: April 19, 1898. Sept. 1, 1920.

: Lee Warren Doyen, July 26, 1921. : Ray Anthony Doyen, Dec. 16, 1924. : Ross Orville Doyen, Oct. 1, 1926. Mark Marion Doyen, Nov. S, 1929.

Glenn Scott Derby married to Bernice Fitzgerald

May 4, 1901. Oct. 9, 1929.

Children

Gwendolyn May Derby, Oct. 21, 1930. Warren William Derby, Aug. 19, 1936. Doris Ann Derby, Dec. 17, 1937.

George Warren Der-:

married to Margaret Schiffer Aug. 15, 1908. Feb. 14, 1933.

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FLORENCE MAHALA DURHAM

Florence Mahala Durham was born November 29, 1855, in Marion County, Iowa. She was educated in the public school. Central college, Pella, Iowa, and Simpson college, Indianola. Iowa. She taught school in Iowa, later in Russell County, Kansas, where she married C. V. Houser April 4, 1886. She became the mother of six children, also helped to rear two orphaned grandsons.

C. B. HOUSER

C. B. Houser, son of C. V. and Florence (Durham) Houser, born June 5, 1888 in Russell Co., Kans. Moved to Marion Co., lowa, after completion of High School at the age 19 years. He entered Coe College in 1907, taking four years, then followed by a four year Academic course in three years, receiving awards and scholarships, having been a member of Olio and other Fraternities.

Mr. Houser did vocational work with the Redpath Vawter Chautauqua concern for a few years. He was then employed by the Albion Consolidated schools where he met and wed Miss Venna Bartholomew. He taught in Marshalltown and Bloomfield High Schools, before taking up special study in Cedar Falls and Drake University. In 1921 Mr. Houser again began teaching at East High in Des Moines, continuing for 15 years. He was instrumental in collecting most of the genealogy of the D. T. Durhom descendants. Mr. and Mrs. Houser were the parents of five bright children. He was Secretary-Treasurer of the Durham family reunion Association for several years. He was a member of the M. E. Church.



HERBERT MILTON DURHAM

Herbert Milton Durham, son of David T. and Lucretia E. Durham, was born on his father's homestead near Knoxville, Iowa, on February 12, 1858. He always said that he was more fortunate than most people in that his birthday was celebrated each year.

He grew to young manhood on the farm and attended school in that vicinity. He entered college at Indianola, lowa but his

attendance there was interrupted due to a severe illness.

On March 8, 1881 he was united in marriage to Anna Meeker of Columbia. Iowa. The young people established their home on a farm in Lucas County, where they lived for a few years.

In the fall of 1884 together with his wife and children, he removed to Russell County, Kansas, where he took up a homestead near Fairport. He continued to reside there for the remainder of his life.

As was the case with most pioneers, he underwent many hardships in the early days in Kansas. He taught school for a number of years, leaving his wife and children on the homestead to look after the home. He taught the first school in the district where his homestead was located.

He passed away at the hospital at Salina, Kansas, on April 29, 1929 after undergoing three operations. He was laid to rest

in the Mount Herman cemetery near Paradise, Kansas,

He was a great reader and always kept well informed on the topics of the day. He was of a retiring nature and never sought publicity. His three children, Mrs. Inex Spence, Stockdale, Kansas, Clarence E., of Salina, Kansas, and Ethel of the home, honor his memory because of his religious training and example, and because of his honesty and uprightness in all business matters.

GEORGE A. DURHAM

DURHAM.—On the 16th of December, 1881, of heart disease, Geo. A., son of Hon. D. T. and L. E. Durham, in Clay township, aged 33 years, 6 months and 10 days.

George was born June 6th. 1848, in Clay township, this county. Enlisted in the 47th Regiment Iowa Volunteers, Capt. Mc-Cormack's company, and left his home on his 16th birthday, and served until honorably discharged at the expiration of his term of enlistment.

He entered the academical department of the Central University at Pella where he attended several terms, and then entered the Law Department of the State University in 1873 and graduated in the class of 1874.

He was a young man of high standards in society, being respected by all who knew him. He was engaged in teaching



school at Iola at the time of his death, and had been engaged in his duties up to a very few days before he died. The scholars and patrons of the school feel that they have not only lost a valuable teacher but a dear friend.

COPY OF LETTER WRITTEN BY MARGRET DURHAM. DAUGHTER OF DAVID DURHAM, TO RELATIVES IN IN BELFAST, MAINE

(Family of James Durham, born June 6, 1785. Brother of David Durham.)

Durham's Ford, Marion County, Iowa. August 19, 1849.

MOST RESPECTED COUSINS AND FRIENDS:

With pleasure I improve the present opportunity of writing you a few lines although it seems quite an undertaking for me to address those whom I never saw, nor hardly dare indulge the idea of ever seeing on this side of eternity.

Father, I believe, has given you all the news of importance. I do not know as I can think of anything of interest to write.

My health is very good at present. I have been teaching school this summer, but did not get through on account of smallpox. It got into the neighborhood and it was thought advisable to dismiss the school for a short time. I shall probably commence again in a few days.

I promised Cousin Tolford that I would write a letter to his sister Mary after he left, but I have broken promise thus far but I hope she will forgive me. I think now I will try to write to her before long. I should be very glad to have a line from some of you. I think amongst so many you could afford to write once in a while. We received a letter from our cousin in Mich. yesterday. They write some of coming to Iowa in September. It was some encouragement to hear talked of coming but I would rather see it than hear tell of it. I don't know as I can think of anything more to write or rather scribble at this time I think if you can make out to read this you will do well. Perhaps by the next time I write I can think of something of more importance to write.

I have written in great haste for I have just heard that it is the calculation for school to commence tomorrow morning and now it is nine o'clock. I want you to give my love to all of my cousins and relatives in your country. Eliza Jane and Sarah join in sending love to all. I believe I shall draw to a close for tonight after wishing you all the blessings that are required to make life happy. Farewell for the present.

From your unworthy cousin,

MARGRET DURHAM.



(The foregoing letter was copied from the original in possession of Albert F. Durham, of Monroe, Maine, son of Tolford. Copy made by Clifton M. Moore, Aug. 1923.)

MARGRET DURHAM

Margret Durham married to James M. Arnold : Daughter of David and Nancy Durham. : Dec. 29, 1849, Marion County, Iowa.

M. Arnold Children

: Steven Nord Arnold, Mar. 17, 1851. : David Durham Arnold, Oct. 26, 1853.

: William Arnold.

: Abraham Lincoln Arnold.

Steven N. Arnold married to Margret Ann Carmichael Children

Nov. 13, 1872, Lucas County, Iowa.

Emma Jane Arnold, Dec. 7, 1873, Lucas County, Iowa.

Della E. Arnold, Sept. 2, 1877, Lucas

County, Iowa.

: Chas. G. Arnold, Apr. 22, 1881. : James S. Arnold, Nov. 36, 1883. : Bertha M. Arnold, Mar. 13, 1886. : Benj. H. Arnold, Oct. 18, 1888. : David D. Arnold, Feb. 20, 1891. : Vera E. Arnold, Oct. 5, 1893. : Lela P. Arnold, Aug. 18, 1896.

Emma J. Arnold married to Andrew J. Litz Children

: Lucas County, Iowa.

: Ora Litz. 1892, Nebraska. : Glenn Litz. 1894, Nebraska. : Earl Litz. 1914, Nebraska.

Ora has four children.

Della E. Arnold married to Albert McMindes Children

Leon McMindes, 1901.
Gladys McMindes, 1902.
Lores McMindes, 1905.

Leon McMindes has one daughter, Annabel Lee, July 25, 1923.

Bertha M. Arnold married to W. L. Seerley

Children : Alice Seerley, 1907.



: Ray Seerley, 1909. : Dorothy Seerley, 1911.

Lela P. Arnold married to Parker Cook Children

: Fern Cook, 1915. : Fay Cook, 1916. : Stephen Cook, 1917. : Ruth Cook, 1919. : Richard Cook, 1921.

DAVID DURIIAM ARNOLD (Son of Margret Durham Arnold)

David Durham Ar-

married to

: Jan. 27, 1877, Lucas County, Iowa.

Hepsie Emeline Fer-:

guson

Children

Jesse E Arnold, Nov. 15, 1877; died Jan.

4, 1878.

Elsie Arnold, Apr. 17, 1879; died Sept.

22, 1879.

Bert D. Arnold, July 8, 1880.
Effie M. Arnold, Oct. 20, 1882.
Wm. P. Arnold, Dec. 2, 1884.

Bert D. Arnold

married to

: Feb. 22, 1911, Lucas County, Iowa.

Clara E. Roddy

Children

Lois E. Arnold, Jan. 19, 1916, Bowman

County, North Dakota.

Mary Agnes Arnold, Dec. 19, 1918.

William Parker Ar-

nold

married to Bessie Lola Welch

Lola Welch Children Mar. 15, 1905, Lucas County, Iowa.

Maurice F. Arnold, Mar. 4, 1905, Phoenix,

Arizona.

Byrm Taft Arnold, Feb. 8, 1909, Phoenix.

Arizona.

Dorothy Ada, June 18, 1912, Phoenix,

Arizona.

Byrm Taft Arnold

married to

Feb. 26, 1930, Phoenix, Arizona.

Mildred V. Stinson Children

Margret Jeanne Arnold, Sept. 11, 1931,

: Phoenix, Arizona.



: Byrm W. R. Arnold, May 26, 1933, Phoenix, Arizona.

Dorothy Ada Arnold:

married to

: Feb. 2, 1933, Phoenix, Arizona.

Oscar A. Blair

Children

Philip A. Blair, Feb. 3, 1934, Phoenix,

Arizona.

ABRAHAM LINCOLN ARNOLD (Son of Margret Durham Amold)

Abraham Lincoln

Arnold

married to

Anna Bond

Children

: Sept. 24, 1885.

Died 1906, Lucas County, lowa,

: Velma Arnold, Aug. 1, 1886, Lucas County, Iowa.

: Bruce B. Arnold, Jan. 10, 1890, Lucas

County, Iowa. Thomas Arnold, Apr. 11, 1893, Lucas

County, Iowa.

Hazel Arnold, June 27, 1900, Lucas Coun-

ty. Iowa.

Harold Arnold, July 28, 1902, Lucas Coun-

ty, Iowa

Velma N. Arnold married to Otis T. Niswender Children

: Nov. 20, 1904. Lucas County, Iowa,

: Gladys M. Niswender, Nov. 18, 1905.

Evelyn B. Niswender, Jan. 28, 1908, Lucas

County, Iowa.

Lois P. Niswender, July 30, 1910, Lucas

County, lowa.

Lyle A. Niswender, Sept. 1913, Lucas

County, Iowa.

Helen L. Niswender, May 4, 1915, Lucas

County, Iowa.

Guy W. Niswender, Aug. 11, 1917, and Guyla Niswender (twins), deceased, Lu-

cas County, Iowa.

Gladys M. Niswender:

married to

Dec. 9, 1923, Lucas County, Iowa.

Perry O. Pennington:

Children Lloyd Pennington, Lucas County, Iowa.

Viola D. Pennington, Lucas County, Iowa.

Bruce B. Aronld

married to : Sept. 17, 1909. Lucas County, Iowa,

Anna Louise Mason

Children : Eulala Zeline Arnold, June 22, 1910, Lu-



cas County, Iowa.

Arlene V. Arnold, Apr. 14, 1920, Lucas

County, Iowa.

Keith Mason Arnold, July 7, 1923, Lucas

County, Iowa.

Burnetta L. Arnold, June 20, 1930, and Barbara L. Arnold, (twins), Lucas County,

Iowa.

Thomas Arnold married to Grace D. Shupe Children Died Oct. 13, 1924.

Dec. 24, 1916.

Woodrow Wilson Arnold, Oct. 3, 1918,

Died Jan. 1919.

Thos. Jr. Arnold, Feb. 5, 1920.

Robert James Arnold, Dec. 18, 1921.

Hazel E. Arnold married to Deyo E. Mills Children

Sept. 19, 1917.

Eugene A, Mills, Oct. 25, 1918, died Nov.

10, 1918.

Margret Ann Mills, Sept. 30, 1919. Donald Rex Mills, Oct. 30, 1921. Virginia Lee Mills, Nov. 10, 1927. Norma Jean Mills, April 10, 1929.

Devo E. Jr. Mills, Mar. 8, 1925; died Mar.

11, 1925.

Eulala Arnold married to

Feb. 15, 1931.

Wayne Wallace

BIOGRAPHY OF CHARLES HALL DURHAM

(By His Daughter Harriet and W. B. Durham)

Charles Hall Durham was born at Monroe, Maine, July 30, 1825. When a small boy he came to the state of Ohio with his

parents, where they stopped for a while.

From Ohio the family came on to McLean Co., Ill., where they made another stop, but decided to move on across the Mississippi River, stopping in Jefferson Co., Iowa, where the wife and mother died(exact location of burial place is unknown to the relatives). After spending about four years in Jefferson and Van Buren counties, the family came on to what is now Marion Co., Iowa, settling near the Des Moines river bank, about one-half mile below an Indian village, the village known as Keokuk by the Indians in honor of their chief.

The place where the Durhams settled soon became known



as Durham's Ford, Durham's Ford Post Office, and later Durham's Ferry, and in steamboat days, Durham's Landing.

Chas. H. was among the real pioneers of Marion County. In the year of 1846 the Sr. Durham was awarded the contract for carrying the mail from Oskaloosa to Knoxville, cont.act called for the fabulous sum of \$72.50 per annum. It is thought that Chas. and his brother Foster did most of the carrying.

The spring of 1849, Chas., in company with his brother, David T., and two other mentfrom the state of Maine) made the trip to California in the days of the gold rush, (see copy of agreement endorsed by these expeditioners on later page of this volume), where he staked a claim. He returned a year or two later to St. Louis on foot, bringing some gold dust. While in St. Louis he had some stick pins made with gold nuggets on them for his sisters and stepmother. The one made for the stepmother was later acquired by his brother, Geo. W. Durham and he in turn later handed it to Mrs. Harriet Linden. On his return from the west, instead of going on the boat around Cape Horn, he left the vessel and walked across the Isthmus of Panama, fourteen miles, and boarded the ship again on the other side, carrying his treasure in a belt around his waist, the left having been made from deer skin.

After returning home, C. H. was married to Julia Cooper, Nov. 8, 1852, at the home of T. H. Forsythe, in Clay Township, Marion County, Iowa. Two or three years after he decided to go back to his gold claim in California. Leaving his wife and two children in a house near his father's home for satety, he and three of his younger brothers, namely Foster, Hiram and George, also a man by the name of Jacob Clevenger, and possibly others unknown to us, started with ox teams and wagons, taking a saddle pony or two with them. When they came to a stream they couldn't ford, they made use of their wagon boxes for boats, taking the wagons apart and ferrying things over in that way, and swim the oxen. Near where Grand Island, Nebr., now is, they encountered a severe wind storm, which blew their wagons and other belongings to pieces, and the oxen drifted away with the storm. The storm coming after night, much of the equipment they never recovered, and thought to have fallen in wrong hands, either the Indians or other rogues. After getting things together as best they could, they found thems lives short of equipment to continue the journey. So they decided to draw straws to see who should take the back track, and it fell to Chas, and Jake Clevenger to return home. Chas, gave his claim in California to his brother Foster and wanted Mr. Clevenger to stake claims with him in Nebraska before returning, but Mr. Clevenger declined.

In early life he united with the Methodist church. He superintended a Union Sunday school at Eureka school house. His



education was of the common school, was a farmer. Besides being post master at Durham's Ford for a short time, as stated elsewhere, he was post master at Durham, Marion County, Iowa, for several years.

(Here I wish to introduce a portion of a letter received from C. H. Durham by my father, H. F. Durham, which reads as follows: "I have made application for the postmastership here and have my petition and endorsements in the hands of the commission for their approval or rejection. Mr. J. W. Sipe is also an applicant, but I have the endorsement of the local chairman and the county chairman, county officers, editors of the Democratic papers at Knoxville and twenty-eight Democratic patrons of the office, so that I think I am pretty safe. Please answer and let me know all the news. Your brother, C. H. Durham."—W. B. D.)

Continuing. C. H. D. held the office of Justice of the Peace, Notary Public. member of the Board of Supervisors of Marion County for two terms, at which time the county wagon bridge was built across the Des Moines river on the Pelia-Knoxville road. He was a charter member of the Order of Odd Fellows at Durham. Iowa.

When the C. B. & Q. R. R. was built through from Albia to Knoxville in 1875, it missed his residence only a few rods. A station was established neearby and was given the name Durham in his honor.

It was here his family grew to manhood and womanhood, and still remains a dear spot in the memory of the living children. See family record elsewhere in this volume.

(Personally I am pleased to be able to give my testimony in behalf of this good man! I recognized Uncle Chas, as one possessed with a most amiable character, patient and considerate in his dealings with everybody, and especially in his home where things were not always just like they should be with two sets of children, kindness seemed to be his long suit. They all called him pa and whatever pa said was law and gospel with the children.—W. B. Durham.)

He became ill in the fall of 1908, going to the home of his daughter, Harriet, near Pleasanton, Iowa, and remained there for about four months and passed away Jan. 20, 1909, aged 83 years, 6 months and 21 days, and was buried in Eureka cemetery, Marion County, Iowa.—H. A. Linden.

(It gives me great pleasure to be able to attach hereto two valuable historical reminiscences, written by Uncle Chas., which I clipped from the Knoxville Express.—W. B. Durham.)



OLD CLAY TOWNSHIP

How the Pioneer Settlers Crossed the Des Moines River.

Humble Cottonwood a Valuable Aid in Crossing the Stream to the Promised Land.

(Knoxville Express, Nov. 1, 1905)

(C. H. Durham, of Durham, was, with his father's family, a pioneer of Ciay township, having arrived in May, 1843. He has for some time contemplated the writing of a series of ar icles on the early settlement of that part of Marion county, and at the solicitation of The Express he has begun the task, which all who know him will feel sure will be well performed. We present his first article herewith:)

On or about the 10th to 15th of May, 1843, the writer of these lines pulled in to the east bank of the Des Moines ri e" at the lower end of Lake Prairie, near where the Wallash bridge spans the river, driving three yokes of oxen with the waran loaded with household goods and some farm tools, part of which were hauled for Andrew Foster and the family who were in a two-horse wagon. On arrival at the river bank we could look across and see the promised land of Clay township, as it has since been organized: the puzzle to my young mind was how we would get over the river with our loads, but the older men of the party had figured that out beforehand. There we met D. T. Durham, who had been there on the claim taken up by him and Mr. Foster and others on the first day of May. They were there in April, scouting around to avoid the dragoons who were there to keep settlers out previous to the time set for relinguishing of the Indian title, which was the first day of May. They had crossed the river on a raft. They had taken three or four dry cottonwood logs chopped in lengths of about 12 to 14 inches in diameter, launched them into the water and bound them together with grape vines, and by the use of long poles and paddles three or four men could float across the river, roing down with the current from half-mile to a mile before reaching the shore. But in the interval from the 1st to 10th of May the men who stayed on the claims while part went after the teams and families and supplies had made a small canoe by diaging out a trough about 15 fest long and a foot wide, which with careful handling would carry two or three men; but this eraft was not sufficient to boat the heavy "plunder" over, so they cut two dry cottonwood logs and lashed one either side of the canoe, thus making it carry the running gear of a heavy wagon with the box and load removed and by this crude craft we landed safe on the west bank of the river. To swim our cattle and horses over was a small job. While in camp in a few days we cut and split logs and built a cabin for the Foster family.



covering it with clap-boards split out with a common chopping axe, and then proceeded to clear ground and plant corn.

Along toward middle of summer the river became fordable and made boating across unnecessary, but during the next season our folks made a large canoe from a walnut tree which would carry ten or twelve people at a trip, and was considered a great improvement over raiting and was an absolute luxury.

Mr. Foster had taken a claim covering a mill site on English creek, and in a few years built a saw-mill, and Mr. Durham had lumber sawed and built a large flat-bottom ferry-boat propelled by poles and oars during the high-water periods, which would carry safely one or two wagons and teams, and the locality was known for many years as Durham's ferry.

During the early times people did their traveling on horse-back, and in crossing the river would take the saddle off and place it in the bottom of the canoe, and lead the horse into the river by the bridle, and, the rider stationed in the stein, would swim the horse across. Some horses would sulk and turn on the side and refuse to swim, that was cured by a dip or two of the horse's head under water which was a sure cure.

It generally fell to the writer as his duty to set men over the stream, and I well remember putting the Methodist circultriders over in that way. They made their rounds about once a month, but one man had about all out-of-doors to supply. One in particular was Rev. David Sweem, of Attica, who served many years in that capacity.

C. II. DURHAM.

OLD CLAY TOWNSHIP

Pioneer's Recollections of Early Days in Marion County.

First Postoffice, Mail Contractor, Mail Carrier, Etc., and How the Mails Were Carried.

(Knoxville Express Nov. 8, 1905)

The first postoffice established in this vicinity was Lake Prairie, at the lower end of the Lake Prairie bottom, with Wilson Stanley as postmaster supplied by a mail route from Keokuk up the Dos Moines river to Raicoon Forks, and carried weekl, by Rev. Post, a liaptist preacher who resided at Keokuk. Mr. Stanley settled here under a permit from the government prior to the extin uishment of the indian life, and in 1817 sold his claim to Mr. Scholte's colony of Hollanders and moved to Red Rock. A. B. Miller kept the office until some time in 1818, when it was moved to Pella and H. R. Scholte was installed as postmaster.

Soon after the county was organized a mail route was cs-



tablished between Oskaloosa and Knoxville, mails once a week each way, and David Durham was awarded the contract and carried the mail on horseback, via Lake Prairie, until the office was moved to Pella, and then for some time carried it by way of Talley's ford and supplied the postoffice in Six-Mile prairie. In 1848 a postoffice was established at the Durham ferry on the west side of the river, and C. H. Durham was commissioned postmaster but soon resigned, and J. R. Whaley was appointed and served until a stage line was started from Oskaloosa to Knoxville by way of Talley's ford or Bellefontaine, and then the postoffice was moved to that route and Mr. McCopeland served as postmaster for several years and the name was changed to English Settlement. The office became extinct about the year 1876, after the trains commenced running on the A., K. & D. R. R. to Knoxville.

Iola postoffice was opened about 1854 or 1855, with Joseph Clark as postmaster, and was continued until the daily mail was started by trains, when it was dropped, and Durham was the main place of receiving mail. As I stated before, David Durham was the first contractor on the route between Knoxville and uskaloosa. At the time set for beginning his service no equipment was furnished by the postoffice department, and to make the thing go as per schedule Mr. Durham furnished his own fixtures, consisting of a leather saddle-bag, both ends closed, with a slit in the middle and laced up with a leather strap and securely locked with a small brass padlock by the postmaster, and, there being only one key, the key was enclosed in a letter, securely sealed with wafers and given to the carrier and by him carried in his pocket and delivered to the postmaster at the office and used by him to open and close the sack and again securely sealed returned to the carrier. One familiar with the manner of handling the mails of the present day would conclude that that was a very loose and careless way, but it was great convenience those days and was made a success. It took letters from one to two months to find their way from the easern states to lowa, and sometimes that lingth of time from one portion of Iowa to another.

The above statements are made entirely from memory and may not be correct as to dates.

Mr. Post, mentioned as mail carrier, was the man that piloted Mr. Scholte and his comrades to Pella on their first trip of observation, and later became a resident of that town.

C. H. DURHAM.

THE OLD SADDLE BAGS

(I have been informed that the old saddle bags are still in existence, the ones referred to by C. H. Durham in his letter to the Knoxville Express and were used to carry mail between



Oskaloosa and Knoxville in 1846. I recall seeing them many times as they were left in my father's care until his death in 1906.—W. B. D.)

A MARION COUNTY PIONEER (Des Moines Capital)

Charles H. Durham who was buried at Eureka cemetery, eight miles east of Knoxville at 2 o'clock Thursday afternoon, was the very last of the 1843 pioneers of Clay township. He came to this county in May of the year mentioned, within less than ninety days from the time the Indian title to the eastern half of the county was extinguished, and continued to reside here until last fall, when he went to Pleasanton, Decatur county, to spend his remaining days with his only daughter. He died here at 2 o'clock Wednesday morning.

Mr. Durham was the first postmaster and justice of the peace in Marion county. He took charge of the postoffice at Durham's Ford in December, 1848; also the station of Durham, between Knoxville and Harvey, was named in honor of the late deceased. His age was 83 years, 6 months and 21 days.

CHARLES HALL DURHAM

Charles Hall Dur-

ham : July 30, 1825, Monroe Maine, U. S. A.

Married to : Aug. 4, 1852, Marion County, Iowa.

Julia Ann Cooper : Married at the home of L. Cooper, by F

: H. Forsyth.

Children: Margret J., Aug. 9, 1853, Marion County.

: Lemuel C., Mar. 31, 1855. : James B., Nov. 1, 1856. : Hiram L., Oct. 5, 1858.

: Sarah M., Apr. 15, 1860.: George D., Oct. 1, 1862.: Amanda M., June 9, 1864.

: Harriet A., Jan. 22, 1866. Ail in Marion

County.

Margret J. Durham:

Married to : Marion County, Iowa.

Joseph Hein : One child, George Hein, Omaha.

James B. Durham

Married to : Two children, Golda and Arthur, in Ore-

Flora --- : gon.

Hiram L. Durham : Died Jan. 14, 1938.

Married to : Emmett, Idaho.

Emma Doogan : Died April, 1937.



Sarah M. Durham

Married to : Two ch
Chas. Ames : cheste

Two children, Mrs. Louie Grubbs, Winchester Bay, Oregon, and Mrs. Alta

Cooper, York, Nebr.

George D. Durham

Married to : Emmett, Idaho.

Mary Doogan : One child, Emma Louise Durham, Emmett,

Idaho.

Amanda Malissa

Durham : Deceased. Never married.

Harriet Ann Durham:

Married to : Marion County, Iowa. Address Pleasanton,

Morris Linden : Iowa.

Children

Alta Marilla Linden:

Married to : Two children, Dolores and Harriet Ann,

Thomas Holmes : Buhl, Idaho.

George Chas. Linden:

Married to : Yakima, Wash.

Maggie Martin : Two children, Mrs. Marie Strandwalt, Ho-

quiam, Wash., and Clarence Lindes.

Celestia Alice Lin-:

den

Married to : Roseberry, Idaho.

Robert Coonrod : Three children, Mrs. Faye Wallace, Don-

nelly, Idaho, Robert and Lonene Coon-

rod.

Morris Linden Jr. : Newton, Iowa.

Married to

Lanelle Dale : One child, Betty Dale Linden.

Leana Faye Linden:

Married to

James Clampitt : Pleasanton, Iowa.

Verna M. Linden

Married to

Roy Dillon : Two children, Mrs. Lola Faye Butts, Tul-

sa, Okla., and Henry Dillon, Cushing,

Okla.

Dawson A. Linden

Married to : Moline, Ill.

Ollie Moore



A SKETCH OF THE TRAVELS, TRIALS AND PRIVATIONS OF DAVID AND NANCY DURHAM

(Written by Eliza Jane Durham Miller, Durham, Iowa, Jan. 7, 1896)

LAURA EYLER, DEAR NIECE:

I am not intending this for a letter, but a little sketch of your Grandfather and Grandmother Durham, their hardships and privations, supposing you would like to know something about your mother's parentage, and if you think it worth while you can show it to Nan and Dow.

Father and Mother left their native Maine for Ohio in a covered wagon, in the fall of 1828, in hopes of finding a place that he could procure a home for himself and family.

At that time they had four children, David, Margret, Charles, and myself. I was but three months old. This part of my story I only know by hearing it talked of after I was old enough to remember.

Jan. 29th, after living in that state 9 years, moved from one place to another, working at different things, and not being successful, he gathered his belongings and family into a covered wagon, and started west again.

By this time there were seven children. Your Uncle Foster, your Mother, and Hiram were born in Ohio. Of course the larger boys were large enough to walk most of the time.

We landed in Illinois in the fall of 1837. Father and David (he was then 16 years old) worked on a mill that was being built on a creek called Kickapoo, near Waynesville. The balance of us children that were large enough went to school.

During the winter your Uncle George was born, which made eight children. There had been two purchases, made by the government in Iowa Territory, which reached west from the Mississippi river about thirty miles and the land had all been settled. During this winter they made another, called the Blackhawk purchase. The spring of 1838 Father started with his team, taking David with him, for the new purchase away west of the Father of Waters.

They made their claim, built a log shanty, and went to work plowing up the ground, deadening timber, cutting some down, making rails, etc.

After they got their crop of corn, potatoes and pumpkins in, they made rails enough and fenced their field to protect their crop.

People were moving in, and had their cows and teams, and a few hogs, and everything had to live off the commons.

They returned, expecting to move early enough to get things fixed up for winter before the weather would get cold, but before we were ready to start we all took down with chills and fever(all except father) and it was quite cool before we were able to travel.

We finally started but it was slow getting along. We would have chills every few days on the road and all winter, but it did not seem to hurt us so much as at first. We crossed the river at Fort Madison, on a steamboat ferry.

People were very kind, let us stay in their houses over night and make our beds on the floor before the fire.

When we got within three miles of our claim, we stopped with a family by the name of Robb that Father had got acquainted with during the summer. It was near where Liberty-ville is now, in Jefferson county. Mrs. Robb ground buckwheat on the coffee mill and made us some warm cakes. We had some kind of bread too, but her warm buckwheat was grand.

After supper they treated us to hickory nuts, and the beds were brought in and spread before the nice wood fire in the large fireplace. We felt like we had found friends.

Father brought a few hogs and cows from Illinois. Jack Foster came with us and helped with the stock.

When we got to our shanty and made our beds it took up all the room from one side to the other. I only stayed one night in the shanty. Father saw a neighbor who lived 1½ miles from us(a Mrs. Carater). She told him to tetch some of the children to her house and she would take care of them until he could put a cabin up. So I was having chills again and he took me. She was as kind to me as my own Mother could have been, but I got wonderfully homesick, but I stayed two weeks. When I went home they had a cabin up, and a puncheon floor, a fireplace and a good warm fire.

We were blessed with plenty of wood for fuel. Father split and hewed puncheons out of a maple tree and made us a table, all the one we had for 8 or 9 years.

By this time our supply of bread stuff was exhausted and something had to be done. Father cut down a tree about two feet through, cut off a block 4 feet high, made it level on both ends, and he chopped with the ax and burned and chiseled until he made a hole about a foot deep in one end, and made a wooden hammer to fit it and pounded corn to make bread. We would sift out the meal to bake and winnow the chaff out in the wind, and boil the cracked corn with a piece of our mass fed pork. There were plenty of acorns and nuts to fat our hogs, and it made good eating for hungry children. But I have thought in later years that it was not sufficient for Mother.

After pounding our bread in a hominy block for a month,



David was sent to Keosauqua, 18 or 20 miles, to a mill. I don't remember whether he took corn with him, or bought it in the old purchase, but it was cornmeal all the same. But this was not the hardest thing we had to undergo. Mother being reduced with sickness in the fall and the hardships of moving and exposure, with insufficient food, nourishing a babe at the breast, was more than her nervous system was able to endure. She took down about the middle of March with what proved to be brain fever or something as bad. The doctors bled her in the temples, cut off the hair and blistered her head all over, all to no effect. After a month of untold suffering the spirit tock its flight, her body found a resting place on the claim she had hoped for an earthly home, but she had a title for a home for the soul, where sorrows and partings are never known, where Jesus is.

After the remains of our dear mother were laid away, we had a great deal to do. She died the 13th of April. George would be 14 months old the 22nd. He was a puny child, never waiked until fall. It was my business to take care of him, day and night, slept with him in my arms. I was most eleven years old, your mother was six and a half years, Aunt Margret was five years older than myself.

If Margret had not been one of the best girls in the world, I don't know what would become of us. She filled the place of both mother and sister.

It was spring and all hands had to do something toward getting something in the ground, for there was where our living had to come from.

Father got a bushel or two of wheat of a neighbor to sow on the shares. Also a peck of flax seed of the same man.

When the wheat was ripe and cut long enough to get dry, they cleaned off a place and tramped it out with horses, turning the straw occasionally to get the unthreshed wheat on top. Then the straw was lifted off and the wheat took up, chaff, dirt and all in a half bushel or bucket and a wagon cover spread, and the mixture sifted down through the wind to separate the dust and chaff from the wheat. If the wind wasn't strong enough, two boys would take a sheet and, one ahold of each end and fan with that.

When all was done Father sacked some of the wheat and took it to a horse mill 4 or 5 miles from where we lived, got it ground and Margret sifted it through a corn meal sleve and made bread good enough for a king to feast on. It was summer and we had plenty of milk and butter. Then we had been months on corn bread.

I had never seen flax growing until now. Father knew all about handling it and we were soon initiated.



He took us in the patch when it was ready to pull. He took the lead and we soon had it pulled and spread on the ground to dry. When he got it rotted and ready to clean, he made a flax break, and put up boards about the height for each young one to work on, made what he called swingling knives out of wood. He would break the flax and learn us how to clean it with our board and knife. We got tired of the business, but had to keep at it just the same. When it was in process, a good old man that lived about 2 miles from us, by the name of Wilson, came in bringing a flax hatchel. He had brought it from Pennsylvania with him. This combed the tow all out and made it look like a roll of silk when it was ready for the wheel. We would bat the tow, and spin it on a big wheel, but had no flax wheel. Mother had wove in Ohio and brought her harness and slays temples and shuttles with her, so Father made her a loom and Margret would weave for a neighbor to pay her for spinning the flax. We raised flax and worked it for several years. It made good summer clothing, nice table cloths and towels, and we made grain sacks and straw ticks for our beds, and our sewing thread out of it.

Sometime during the fall of 1838 Father received a letter from a man that he had known in the east, Whitney by name, informing Father where he was. I think it was Coshockton or Shocockon, on the Mississippi river. He had calculated to come to see Father, but was on important business, and had taken sick, and would have to return as soon as he was able. He said Father's sister had sent him a present that was worth coming after.

He(Father) went on horseback, was gone 4 or 5 days. The present was 20 dollars cash.

He bought ten head of sheep soon after that. I have thought he paid with that money. After we got our sheep, we made winter clothing out of wool. The flock increased until we had enough to make blankets and coverlids for our beds.

We had to use slough water and sometimes had to carry it a half mile. In hot weather how we suffered for a good drink.

Father commenced a well, dug more than forty feet and got no water. He then went about three hundred yards west to the edge of the prairie, got water without any trouble. We carried it from there, and had good water. In the course of time he built a good hewed log house near the well. I think we only lived in it one winter. A man in Van Buren county bartered him to trade claims, offered him 50 dollars boot and Father took him up. It was spring when we moved. It was a little old log cabin, but before winter we had a new hewed log house just like the one we left. It was about 4 miles from our Jefferson county home, but I don't remember ever seeing our old



home after we left. The new one was a nicer place than the one we left but it was never home to me like the one where my Mother died and was buried.

I think we spent about five years on the two claims.

settlement. We sold out to an Ohio man, a Dr. Walker, and Father came up here and made a claim on the river (Des Moines river), where your Uncle Hiram lived when you left here.

He got a span of horses and wagon, the balance was cash. I think he never had any of the money in his possession until this land came in market.

Moving commenced late in the fall. We had considerable stuff to move this time, nothing of any great value, but it was of great importance to us. We fetched our loom and wheel with us, had two teams and quite a herd of sheep, cattle and hogs. It was no great distance but it toook us several days. Father and David had come up in the spring and made their claims and put in a patch of corn.

A Mr. Williams and wife had made a claim and put up a cabin where your Aunt Emily (and Uncle David Durham) now lives. They had gone back to the old purchase to winter, and we got permission to go into their house until we could build. (They were the grandparents of Leander Williams.)

Our house was soon under way. The logs had to be chopped and put up, clapboards split for the roof, a fireplace made, and puncheons split for the floor, the cracks chinked with split wood and daubed with mud. There was plenty of wood for our large fireplace, and we were very comfortably fixed when we got home, but we had no loft floor, and David and Foster went to an old Indian town on Lake Prairie near by and got bark off the old wickiups and put on the joists for a loft floor.

Charles had been sick in the fall, was not able to work much. So he was left in the old purchase to go to school. It was near Christmas when we got moved home. Father, David and Foster left for the old purchase soon after we moved.

Father went for some of our goods that we could not fetch with us, and to settle up his business and get a supply of bread stuff. David was going to stay and work awhile, and they took Foster along to drive one of the teams back.

The river was frozen solid when they went away. It turned warm and came some rain, the snow melted off and raised the river and the ice broke up and run out. It jammed and piled the large cakes of ice all along the sandbar so that we could not get to the water with our cattle and sheep. We had to drive them down a half mile to Andrew Foster's, where he watered his things. It snowed and turned cold in a few days, and our fodder was all gone, the pea vines and vegetation was



covered up so that our cattle could get nothing to eat, and we had to cut down little elm trees for them to get the tops.

Hiram and George were quite small, not considered capable of doing outdoor work in the winter, and they were poorly shod. but Hiram would tie his feet up in old rags and help us to cut down trees for the cattle to feed on. They were gone some time, perhaps three weeks.

The river froze over again, and we were worried for fear they would come in the night and break in(through).

They did come in the night, but Father took in the situation and they secured the teams on the Lake Prairie side, and he got a heavy stick to try the ice before him, having Foster follow along behind out of danger.

(The following statement by her son, Elbert Clinton Miller: This ends the original letter, unsigned and unfinished as I have it. The foregoing is all that I have. Evidently my Mother was hindered from ever finishing the letter and mailing it. The original will be kept in my possession. These pages were typed from the original with spelling and punctuation of the original by my son, Elbert Durham Miller, who is sixteen years old. If these pages are of any interest to the other members of the Durham family, I shall be glad that I have sent them to you. My address is: Elbert Clinton Miller, Marysville, Calif.)

ELIZA JANE DURHAM

Eliza Jane Durham

Married to

David D. Miller

Children

· Foster Mill

: Foster Miller, Feb. 11, 1863, Marion Coun-

Married Feb. 26, 1852, Marion Co., Iowa.

ty, Iowa.

: McClelland Miller. : Elbert C. Miller.

Foster Miller

Married to Emma Gebhart

Apr. 24, 1890, Rice Co., Kans.

Apr. 24, 1830, Rice Co., Kalls.

Children : Hugh Durham Miller, Feb. 1, 1891. : Guy Fuller, Miller, Sept. 13, 1893.

: Elbert Earl Miller, July 19, 1896.

David Bryan Miller, Sept. 1, 1908.

Hugh D. Miller
Married to
Bell L. Loomis

Children

: Sept. 20, 1916, Grant County, Oklahoma.

: Carlton Loomis Miller.

: Leland H. Miller.

: Alfred C. Miller.

: Alden H. Miller.

: Darrel F. Miller.



Guy F. Miller : May 27, 1918, Grant County, Oklahoma. married to Edna Hensinger Children : Kelley Leroy Miller. Elbert E. Miller : Sept. 6, 1923, Grant County, Oklahoma. married to Alice Glick : Earl E. Miller Jr., Dec. 21, 1927. Children David Bryan Miller married to Dec. 25, 1935, Forgan, Oklahoma, Martha James Elbert Clinton Miller: Marion Co., Iowa, Jan. 23, 1871. married to : Oct. 8, 1908, in Manila, P. I. Carrie Jenson : of Hull, Iowa, U. S. A. Children : John Jenson Miller, Aug. 8, 1910. Died Dec. 6, 1912. : Elbert Durham Miller, June 15, 1912. Both born in Manila, P. I. : Address 1122 High St., Marysville, Calif. FOSTER E. DURHAM Foster Edward Dur-: ham July 1, 1852, Marion County, Iowa. married to Elizabeth M. Harsin Children Sylvester V. Durham, June 6, 1853, Marion County, Iowa. Miama Clementine Durham, Mar. 21, 1855, Marion County, Iowa. Sarah E. Durham, May 22, 1857, Marion County, Iowa. John David Durham, May 18, 1859, Marion County, lowa. Chas. Martin, Durham, June 25, 1861, Marion County, Iowa. Delila J. Durham, Sept. 16, 1863, Marion County, Iowa. Sylvester V. Durham: married to June 5, 1873. Martha Miranda Lundy Children Vivia C. Durham, June 3, 1878, Lucas County, Iowa.

: J. Lemuel Durham, Apr. 26, 1882, Lucas : County, Iowa. : Bertie E. Durham, Aug. 11, 1887, Holt : County, Nebr. : Arza M. Durham, Jan. 14, 1895, Marion : County, Iowa.



Vivia C. Durham married to: Apr. 30, 1896. Saml. W. Clark Children Morrison V. Clark, June 20, 1898, Marion County, Iowa, T. Wilson Clark, Oct. 13, 1900, Marion County, Iowa. Lloyd A. Clark, Sept. 18, 1903. Mildred H. Clark, Nov. 27, 1908. Morrison V. Clark married to Jan. 11, 1924, Marion County, Iowa. Helen I. Harvey Thomas Wilson Clark Feb. 8, 1922, Marion County, Iowa. married to Carrie Verross Verna S. Clark, Dec. 19, 1924, Marion Children County, Iowa: Della M. Clark, Mar. 10, 1928, Marion County, Iowa, Leuta C. Clark, Oct. 10, 1933, Marion County, Iowa, Leroy W. Clark, Oct. 9, 1938, Marion County, Iowa. Lloyd A. Clark Dec. 24, 1924, Marion County, Iowa. married to Gladys B. Brubaker: Divorced. Lloyd A. Clark married to : Oct. 24, 1930. Pearl B. Noftsger. Mildred H. Clark married to June 15, 1930; Marion County, Iowa. Arie De Heus Children : Marvin P. De Heus, Dec. 11, 1931, Marion County, Iowa: Vivia Marie De Heus, July 31, 1938. John D. Durham : May 18, 1859, Marion County, Iowa. Died Mar. 13, 1888. : Aug. 24, 1878. married to Mary A. McLaughlin: Deceased. : Wm. E. Durham, Sept. 20, 1880. Deceased. Children Chas. Martin Dur-: June 25, 1861, Marion County, Iowa. : Died Feb. 12, 1892. ham married to : Nov. 22, 1881. Lilly M. Butts : Born April 13, 1864. : Chas: Carl Durham, Sept. 25, 1882, Mar-Children ion County, Iowa. : Artie Durham, B. Dec. 20, 1888. Deceased.

: Foster E. Durham. Deceased.



Chas. C. Durham married to Vera Hicks Children : Sept. 25, 1882.

Jan. 10, 1904, Texarkana, Texas.

Kenneth M. Durham, De Queen, Ark., Mar. 27, 1905.

Florene E. Durham, De Queen, Ark., June 9, 1907.

Levone Durham, Apr. 18, 1916. Mar. 27, 1905, Texarkana, Texas. Dec. 25, 1924, Texarkana, Texas.

Kenneth M. Durham:
married to
Virginia E. Ellis

J. Lemuel Durham married to

Alta B. Harsin

: Born Lucas County, Iowa.

: Mar. 1, 1911, Marion County, Iowa.

: Deceased.



J. Lemuel Durham

married to

Tiscia Dykstra Children : Born Netherlands, May 16, 1890.

Agnes M. Durham, May 16, 1915, Marion

County, Iowa.

: Lester V. Durham, May 17, 1917, Marion

County, Iowa.

Bertie E. Durham

married to

: July 28, 1909, Marion County, Iowa.

Hattie Van Oostrum: Died -------

Children

· Irone H Durham May

: Irene H. Durham, May 13, 1910, Marion

County, Iowa.

Bertie E. Durham

married.to

: Died Jan. 27, 1922.

Jemima E. Thomp-:

son

Nov. 3, 1920.

Children : John Edward Durham, Marion County,

Iowa.

Irene H. Durham

married to

Apr. 13, 1931.

John E. Black

Children

Marilyn L. Black, May 27, 1934, Mahaska

County, Iowa.

Arza M. Durham

married to

Apr. 27, 1914, Marion County, Iowa.

Nanie M. Wolver Children

: Kenneth Lloyd Durham, Sept. 18, 1915, : Marion County, Iowa.

Lorane M. Durham, Feb. 19, 1919, Marion

County, Iowa.

Dorothy A. Durham, Oct. 24, 1924, Marion

County, Iowa.

Vivia C. Durham

Clark

married to

Marion County, Iowa.

Mr. Zwank

Couple now living in Pella, Iowa.

Kenneth Lloyd Dur-:

ham

: married to

Knoxville, Marion County, Iowa, 1937.

Geraldine Bousquet:



SARAH ANN DURHAM

Sarah Ann Durham: Born Sept. 6, 1832, Marion County, Iowa.

Died Nov. 21, 1870.

married to : Sept. 10, 1858, Marion County, Iowa.

Leonard Lee Iler : Born Sept. 6, 1831, Died Apr. 11, 1910,

Children : Nancy Jane Iler, May 29, 1865, Marion

County, Iewa.

Lorenzo Dow Her, Dec. 19, 1866, Marion

County, Iowa. Died Apr. 9, 1904.

Laura Etta Iler, Nov. 14, 1868, Marion

County, Iowa. Died July 6, 1924.

Nancy Jane Her : Born May 29, 1865.

married to :

J. D. Hartman : Born Feb. 18, 1857. Died Oct. 28, 1928. Children : Flossie (Adopted daughter).

· I tobbie (Ixae pred dadamer).

Lorenzo Dow Her: Born Dec. 19, 1866. Died Apr. 9, 1904.

married to : August, 1895. Elese Hessler :

Children : Leonard, Hazel and Mae Iler.

Laura Etta Iler : Born Nov. 14, 1868. Died July 6, 1924.

married to : Feb. 20, 1889. William S. P. Eyler: Born Jan. 8, 1869.

Children : Myrtle, Margaret, Lida, Zella, Lee and

Evelyn Eyler.

Sarah Ann Iler, after being afflicted with cancer for many years and had withstood two amputations of one limb without success, passed away at her home on Sandridge, as stated above. She had taught school prior to her marriage to Mr. Iler. During her affliction she had been a great sufferer for many years, a kind mother, and a dutiful wife.

Mr. Her remarried and moved with his family to the state of Nebraska. In 1884, in company with Foster Miller, I visited them at Osceola, same state.

Their son, Dow, came back to Iowa on a brief visit, returning to Nebraska. He died later. The two daughters remained out there, their location is unknown to us at the present time, 1938.

W. B. D.

(Since the above was prepared for publication, a letter has been received from Mrs. Harry Blackmun, 3812 N. E. Sandy Blvd., Portland, Oregon, dated June 26, 1939, stating that she is a niece of Nancy Iler Hartman, giving us more information of the family.—W. B. D.)



BIOGRAPHY OF HIRAM FULLER DURHAM

Hiram Fuller Durham, son of David and Nancy (Clements) Durham, was born June 3, 1835, in Morgan County, Ohio. When a lad of three years the family moved to McLean County, Illinois, and from there they came across the Mississippi river in the year 1838. They arrived in what is now Jefferson County, Iowa. There the wife-mother died April 13, 1839. Remaining there about three years, thence to Van Buren County for perhaps two or three years, and on May first, 1843, arrived in what later became Clay Township, Marion County, Iowa.

Settling on the south side of the Des Moines river, where the family established a home in the new territory, which was known as the Territory of Wisconsin. Their arrival here and subsequent residence was attended by more or less privation and hardship, (see family history). Here the subject of our sketch grew up, as the family was bereft of a mother, his training was left largely to care of older children, who evidently were of the better class. School facilities in the new country were very limited. Being reared under such pioneer conditions, and where the partly civilized Indians were still present for at least one year, and no public buildings in existence, (I quote from hearsay), one year or less at Central University finished his education.

In early manhood he, in company with other parties, made a trip across the western plains to the Rocky Mountains. When crossing the state of Nebraska they experienced a severe wind and electric storm at night which tore up their camp and scattered their work oxen, tore up their wagons and other equipment so they hadn't room for all the men. So they drew lots to decide who should continue the trip. Hiram was one of the fortunate who went on. During this storm the only way one could hold his position was to lie face down and hold to the grass. On this trip the Indians would sometimes make the travelers a visit, sometimes in a peaceful way, but usually had to be watched pretty close to prevent them from taking articles that didn't belong to them, (commonly called stealing). On one occasion the red skins made a raid on the camp, taking a pony belonging to Hiram's brother, Foster. The company sent men out after them. They crowded the Indians so close that they turned the pony loose but shot him with an arrow that was supposed to have been poisoned. At any rate the pony died.

On Nov. 10, 1861 Hiram married Elizabeth Lee, daughter of John and Nancy Lee of the same neighborhood, and began keeping house in a log cabin about 7 miles northwest of Pella, lowa, on the north side of the Skunk River, where their first child was born Aug. 28, 1862. The following spring they moved to the Old Homestead at Durham's Ferry, otherwise having been known as Durham's Ford, Durham's Ford Post Office, and



Durham's Landing (for steamboats), where three other children were later born, namely, Nancy J., Annie M., David Russell.

Being a charter member of the local Grange at Eureka schoolhouse, he was chosen secretary and continued in office until the disbanding in the 1870s.

In the year 1881 Hiram decided on selling the Old Homestead which the family had cherished as home since the year 1843. This move was thought best for various reasons, especially since in that year the Wabash R. R. was continued from Albia, Monroe County, to Des Moines, passing through the farm in such a manner as to permanently damage some of the best land, making a large curve through the same, and coming near enough the residence so it passed through the east end of the garden, just a few rods away. Though a settlement was made for the damage, yet Hiram was not content to stay long. He sold out in early winter and bought a farm in Belmont Township, Warren County, same state. The new purchase consisted of 200 and some acres of high class prairie land improved. As time went on he succeeded in tiling a good portion of the farm, which added to its value. He employed a method of rotating the crops, and it is considered one of the best farms in the township.

Hiram was a charter member of the Warren County Farmers Mutual Insurance Association. In a few years he was chosen secretary and remained as such until his health failed, at which time he retired to private life.

The date of his passing was Dec. 6, 1906 on the farm last above mentioned.

Thus my most trusted councilor and advisor passed to his reward. His many fine attributes are cherished in my memory to this day, having passed the allotted time of man in this life.

Politically a Democrat

He maintained belief in government by the people and for the people, with equal rights to all and special privilege to none.

Morally and Religiously

He tried to practice the Golden Rule so far as practical in this life of perplexity. A staunch believer in the final restitution of the whole human family to Holiness and Happiness through the Saviour of mankind as set forth in Holy Writ, maintaining that Christ came to save the lost. Therefore His reign must continue until his mission is fulfilled. As in Adam all die, even so, in Christ shall all be made alive, that the scriptures reveal God to be Love and His mercy endureth forever.

What a joy to be able to cherish the hope I have, that in the not far distant when my work is done here, I shall be permitted to greet the loved ones on the Better Shore.—W. B. Durham.



AUTOBIOGRAPHY OF W. B. DURHAM

Son of Hiram F. and Elizabeth (Lee) Durham, on the north side of Skunk River, about 7 miles northwest of Pella, Iowa, on the 28th day of August, 1862, I was born. About 6 months later the family moved to the original Durham's Ford homestead, on the south side of the Des Moines river, where David Durham made his claim in 1843, and in 1882, in the month of February our family moved to Belmont Township, Warren County, Iowa. Most of the time since the above date I have spent in this county. Though somewhat broken in health and finances, I may still be hanging around here for sometime yet.

During my stay at the old homestead in Marion County, I attended public school at from 5 to 10 years of age. After that my schooling consisted of about three months a year at the same school. At the age of sixteen I turned down a college education proposition just because of timidity. Once gone the chance never came again.

On the 31st day of March, 1887, I married Minnie A. Hantz, who has been my helpmate all these years. We have as our reward three grown children, all married, of whom we are very proud and thankful to our Heavenly Father.

Up to 1912 my occuation was farming, in which I took quite a pride. On moving to Milo, December, 1912, I decided to retire from farming. In the spring of 1913 I was induced to take part in soliciting funds to build a "Christian Union Church" in Milo. The church was built and dedicated the spring of 1914 at the cost of about \$15,000.

In the month of March, 1915 I received notice from the Post Office Department at Washington that I had been appointed Postmaster at Milo, Iowa, effective March 2, 1915, which position I held for two appointive terms or eight years.

The following, clipped from the Indianola Advocate-Tribune, Nov. 29, 1917: "W. B. Durham has lived in and near Milo for the past 34 years; was raised on a farm, and spent his early life on the banks of the Des Moines river, south of Pella, Marion County, Iowa. As postmaster Mr. Durham has given the patronage of the Milo office good and efficient service with a thorough knowledge of his duties to the Department and to the patrons. He ranks as one of the best officials in the county."—Clint L. Price.

Religiously I maintain that it is God's will, pleasure, purpose, promise and oath that all men shall be saved, for which He sent His only begotten Son Who is to reign until all enmity is conquered and God shall be all in all. The witness of these things is numerous in the Holy Bible, the promises expressed in the scriptures are very comforting to the wayfaring man, and Good must prevail, is my belief.



Since the origin of our family reunion in 1918 I have taken up the history and genealogy of the David Durham family, which has been quite a task with some disappointments. But the cooperation of some of the best people on earth has been most helpful and gratifying. The degree of our success we leave to the reader.

W. B. DURHAM.

LYLE W. DURHAM

Son of W. B. and Minnie A. Durham, was born in Belmont Township, Warren County, Iowa, on January 19, 1904. He received his education from the Milo, Iowa, public schools and was graduated from the Milo High School in 1922 with highest honors.

He served the following year as assistant postmaster with his father at Milo. In the fall of 1923 he entered the Iowa State Agricultural College at Ames. Later he finished his college work and received his B. A. degree at Cedar Falls State Teachers College.

He taught his first term of school at Decatur City, Iowa. From there he went to Shannon City, where he taught for eight years.

On May 21, 1932 he was married to Margret Nulph of Shannon City. In September, 1935 he entered the Winterset, Iowa, High School faculty, where he was engaged in teaching Manual Arts and Instrumental Music, and is at present teaching there. During the past 10 years the educators of the state of Iowa have recognized the importance of public music and have encouraged the music instructors to train and enter their pupils in music contests and festivals. Mr. Durham has had marked success along this line. The Shannon City orchestra, under his direction, was permitted to enter the State High School Music Festival at Iowa City in 1933, winning second place in their division.

In 1938 the Winterset High School Band won recognition in Class A at the State Music Festival at Iowa City.

The Winterset high school band received the rating of "Superior" in the south central district marching band contest at Winterset last Saturday. The band is conducted by Lyle Durham, former Milo boy.—Milo Motor.



H. F. DURHAM FAMILY

Hiram F. Durham married to Elizabeth Lee Children

: June 3, 1835, Morgan County, Ohio. : Nov. 10, 1861, Marion County, Iowa.

: Mar. 31, 1837, Orange County, Indiana. : William Bennett Durham, Aug. 28, 1862,

Marion County, Iowa.

: Nancy Jane Durham, July 26, 1864, Mar-

ion County, Iowa.

: Annie May Durham, Dec. 15, 1865, Mar-

ion County, Iowa.

: David Russell Durham, Oct. 27, 1871, : Marion County, Iowa. Died Jan. —, 1937,

Payette, Idaho.

WILLIAM B. DURHAM FAMILY

William B. Durham:

married to Minnie A. Hantz : Mar. 31, 1887, Warren County, Iowa. : Aug. 21, 1869, Wayne County, Ohio.

Children

: Blanche Elizabeth Durham, June 25, 1890,

Lucas County, Iowa.

Lora May Durham, Nov. 6, 1892, Warren County, Iowa.

Lyle William Durham, Jan. 19, 1904, Warren County, Iowa.

Blanche E. Durham : married to Claude W. Risinger :

June 25, 1890, Warren County, Iowa. Feb. 22, 1911, Warren County, Iowa.

Children

Max Durham Risinger, May 15, 1913, Warren County, Iowa. Graduate of Illinois Western College, band and orchestra. Instructor Jesup, Iowa. Accomplished vocalist.

Lora May Durham married to Derby J. Davey Children Graduate Milo High School, Writer. Feb. 11, 1914, Garden City, Kansas.

Farmer.

Roy Gordon Davey, Oct. 19, 1914, Warren

County, Iowa.

Elton Allen Davey, June 9, 1922, Warren

County, Iowa. Died Jan. 6, 1924.

Robert Lyle Davey, Mar. 16, 1925, Warren County, Iowa.

Lyle W. Durham

College, Ames, Iowa State Teachers. Instructor band, orchestra, Wintereset

High School.

married to Margret Nulph : May 21, 1932, Yankton, South Dakota. : Shannon City, Iowa. Accomplished Pianist.



Max Durham Risin-:

ger: May 15, 1914, Warren County, Iowa, Grad-

uate Illinois Teachers.

married to : Aug. 21, 1937, Fort Madison, Iowa.

Rosemary Peter : 1917, Lee County, Iowa.

Children : James Bert Risinger, Nov. 1, 1938, Black

Hawk County, Iowa.

Roy Gordon Davey: Oct. 19, 1914, Warren County, Iowa, Val-

edictorian. Milo High School 1933.

married to : 1937.

Othella Wright: Sept. -, 1917. Graduate Milo High School.

Children : Gordon Wright Davey, May 15, 1939.

Oct. 21, 1938. A letter from the president of the North East Iowa Band Master's Association stated that Max Risinger has been placed on the Executive Committee.

RISINGER IN SONG SERVICE

Northboro H. S. Principal Gives Appropriate Vocal Recital Sunday Night.

Last Sunday evening Max D. Risinger presented a service in song at the Methodist church of Northboro. Mrs. Ella Mc-Kensie acted as accompanist. A large congregation was present for the service.

Following is the program which Mr. Risinger presented:

Wher'er You Walk	-	- Handel
I Attempt From Love's Sickness to Fly	-	- Purcell
Die Lotosblume (The Lotus Flower)	-	- Schuman
Ein Ton(What Sound Is That?) -	-	- Cornelius
Serenade	Louis	Campbell Tipton
My Redeemer and My Lord	-	Buck
I Will Lift Up Mine Eyes	-	- Bartlett
The Ninety and Nine	-	- Campion
Come Thou Weary One	-	- Soechtig
O Dry Those Tears	-	- Del Riego
Then You'll Remember Me -	- , , -	- Balfe
The Rose of Tralee	-	- Glover
I Hear You Calling Me	-	- Marshall
Last Night	-	- Kjerulf
Mighty Lak' A Rose	-	Nevin
Swing Low Sweet Chariot	-	- Spiritual



NANCY J. DURHAM FAMILY

Nancy Jane Durham:

married to : Dec. 25, 1890, Warren County, Iowa.

William F. Nemeyer:

Children: Lizzie M. Nemeyer, Apr. 6, 1892, Adair

County, Iowa.

: Rex Nemeyer, Oct. 28, 1893, Adair County,

Iowa.

: Russell Henry Nemeyer, Sept. 25, 1895,

Adair County, Iowa.

Lizzie May Nemeyer: High school graduate. Bank clerk.

married to : June 6, 1923, Adair County, Iowa.

Arch Wolf

Rex Nemeyer : Overseas World War veteran, now in Chi-

: cago.

Russell H. Nemeyer: Training camp, Aerial division. Honorable

discharge.

married to : Sept. 23, 1926, Adair County, Iowa,

Marie Ross

ANNIE MAY DURHAM FAMILY

Annie May Durham:

married to : Sept. 23, 1885, Warren County, Iowa.

Allen D. Talbott

Children : Edward Lee Talbott, July 1886, Warren

: County, Iowa.

: Hiram R. Talbott, Oct. 25, 1888, Warren

: County, Iowa.

: Forest A. Talbott, Aug. 24, 1902, Warren

: County, Iowa.

: David D. Talbott, Mar. 21, 1905, Warren

County, Iowa.

Edward Lee Talbott: Farmer, South Dakota.

married to : Warren County, Iowa.

Clara E. Heller : Formerly a school teacher.

Children: Marie Talbott, Nov. 18, 1909, Warren

County, Iowa.

Gladys E. Talbott, May 16, 1911.
Dorothy I. Talbott, Aug. 4, 1913.
Frances G. Talbott, Oct. 22, 1916.

(All four girls high school graduates.)

: Allen D. Talbott, Aug. 12, 1918.
: Edward J. Talbott, Aug. 23, 1920.
: Margret A. Talbott, Jan. 24, 1925.
: James C. Talbott, May 7, 1927.



Forest A. Talbott

married to : North Platte, Nebr.

Juanita J. Thompson:

Children : Allen Forest Talbott, Sept. 12, 1935.

Hiram R. Talbott : Died Jan. 1938.

married to

Maude E. Lewis

Children: Albert David Talbott, Jan. 12, 1932.

: Mildred Louise Talbott, Dec. 5, 1933, Ne-

braska.

David D. Talbott

married to : 1936.

Ruth Cronin

DAVID RUSSELL DURHAM FAMILY

David Russell Dur -:

ham: Oct. 27, 1871, Marion County, Iowa.

married to : 1890, Warren County, Iowa.

Etta Ferguson : Jan. 28, 1870, Warren County, Iowa.

Children: Etha Durham, Sept. 21, 1891.

Orah Durham, Apr. 11, 1893. Died Aug.

24, 1932.

: Jessie Durham, Mar. 15, 1895. : Ira Durham, Apr. 13, ——. : Lena Durham, Dec. 15, 1903. : George Durham, Mar. 8, 1906.

Etha Durham

married to : Payette, Idaho, Nov. 10, 1918.

Bertram Howard

Orah Durham

married to : Nov. 24, 1918.

Bernice Schofield

Children : Ray Durham, June 15, 1920.

Junior Durham, Sept. 5, 1921. Rolland Durham, Apr. 9, 1932.

Jessie Durham

married to : Payette, Idaho.

Clause Reimer

Children: Paul Reimer, Dec. 7, 1911.

Russell Reimer, Aug. 8, 1913.

Etta Marie Reimer, Sept. 20, 1924.

Ira Durham

married to : Payette, Idaho.

Pearl Rock

Children: Hazel Durham, Jan. 17, 1924.

: Alene Durham, May 15, 1926.



Lena Durham

married to : Payette, Idaho.

Wesley Beigh

Children: Kathlene Beigh, Nov. 20, 1928.

George Durham

married to : May 14, 1927.

Alice Reed

WELL KNOWN PAYETTE MAN DIES

The news dispatches of Tuesday morning carried the antonuncement of the death of one of the Payette Valley's most highly esteemed citizens and successful farmer and fruit growers, D. R. Durham, whose home has long been some six miles northeast of Payette. One of Mr. Durham's widely known services was the developing of the black seeded strain of watermelon that bears his name. In the passing of Mr. Durham this paper lost a highly regarded friend and the Socialist cause in Idaho lost one of its most loyal and sensible supporters.—Payette, Idaho, newspaper, March 22, 1937.

GEORGE WASHINGTON DURHAM

Son of David and Nancy Durham, born Feb. 22, 1838, the same year lowa became a territory. Having been left an orphan by the death of his mother at the tender age of 14 months, as stated elsewhere in this little volume, no doubt he had as good care as a kind sister eleven years old could give him. Still it was not the tender mother care he so much needed.

Under date of Aug. 5, 1862, in agreement with his brother, Hiram F., he had signed a contract with their father, David, for the rental of the old homestead(with certain reservations) for the period of the natural lifetime of David and Joanna Durham(husband and wife), and they were to have possession on the first day of the following March. Later G. W. took a notion to go to Montana and Idaho for a season. Later, returning to lowa, in partnership with his brother, H. F., he went to Lucas County and they bought a rough 160 quarter section. G. W. later married Malinda Lee and moved to the new purchase, embarking in the livestock and farming business, using the open range, and the two brothers maintaining a herder throughout the grazing season for several years.

The subject of our sketch was an honorable, upright citizen. As a young man he was deemed worthy of trust. I have the evidence in my possession at the present time that he held money to be dealt out to a family for their support in the absence of the husband as needed. I was told this action was



to prevent her relatives from getting hold of the money for their own use.

He was a man highly respected in his neighborhood and they came in to counsel with him on their legal affairs.

He served as Justice of the Peace several terms, school director on a District Township School Board. At one time kept a man prisoner in his residence overnight.

G. W. was a kind and considerate husband and father.

Among his neighbors he was famous for his caustic remarks made in a humorous way.

He died at his home in Liberty township, Lucas county, Iowa, September 28, 1919.

W. B. DURHAM.

GEORGE WASHINGTON DURHAM FAMILY

George W. Durham: Farmer, land owner and highly respected. Died 1919. married to : Sept. 10, 1865, Marion County, Iowa. : Died 1928. Daughter of John and Nancy Malinda Lee · Lee. : John David Durham, Oct. 8, 1866, Lucas Children County, Iowa, : Andrew Clements Durham, Feb. 5, 1872, Lucas County, Iowa. John David Durham: Farmer, land owner, Lucas County, Iowa. : Lucas County, 1891. married to Martha A. Gray Chas. Clinton Durham, Feb. 22, 1892, Lu-Children cas County, Iowa. Clyde Andrew Durham, July 2, 1894, Lucas County, Iowa. : Hannah M. Durham, Aug. 5, 1896, Lucas County, Iowa. Frank S. Durham, Apr. 15, 1900. George David Durham, Mar. 31, 1909. Hannah M. Durham: : Aug. 20, 1914, Lucas County, Iowa. married to Gerald W. Terrell

Children

: Chas. Ronald Terrell, Jan. 14, 1916, Lucas County, Iowa.

: Paul Edwin Terrell, May 27, 1921, Lucas

County, Iowa.

: Albert Lee Terrell, Jan. 30, 1930, Polk

: County, Iowa.

Clyde Andrew Dur -: Overseas World War veteran. Honorable . ham : Discharge.



Frank S. Durham

married to : Dec. 12, 1929, Polk County, Iowa.

Ruth V. Oxenrider:

Children: John K. Durham, Oct. 13, 1930, Lucas

County, Iowa.

: Jimmie C. Durham, Apr. 23, 1932, Lucas

County, Iowa.

Anderw Clements

Durham : Farmer, land owner, stock raiser, Lucas

County, Iowa.

married to : Feb. 11, 1920, Lucas County, Iowa.

Sarah D. Russell

Winterport, Maine, Dec. 5, 1923.

Mr. C. M. Moore and Sister Margie, Friends:

I will try and answer yours. We were very pleased to hear that you had a nice pleasant trip back. If I was as good a writer as you or sister, I would be glad to write in regard to the questions. Will say that Miss Nancy Clements married David Durham. She was my grandmother's sister and her brother's daughter (Capt. John's daughter) married a man named Durham and he died, and she married Joseph Chanborn. They lived in Belfast. He was a nice man. I wish you could hear him tell some of his school stories. They kept the Commercial Hotel at foot of Main St. about fifty years ago. Yes, we enjoyed sister's letter very much. I wish Mrs. Conant and I were out there with you folks this winter. It has been raining lately. We haven't had any cold weather yet. Well, Clif., Mrs. Conant will write all the news so I will leave it to her. With best wishes, I remain,

Yours truly,

G. H. CLEMENTS.

1717 Yosemite Drive, Eagle Rock, Calif. Dec. 13, 1923.

Mr. Wm. B. Durham, Milo, lowa.

I wrote Mr. Clements soon after getting here and received this reply yesterday. Mr. Clements is a well-to-do farmer, now retired and living at Winterport Village on the Penobscot river.

He is about 75 years of age, has three sons and a daughter, Charles C., Elmer and Harold, all of Winterport. If you wish



to go into the family history farther, I think that his son Charles could help you or tell you where you could get information.

There are lots of these Clements in that section and they have annual reunions.

Yours truly,

C. M. MOORE.

12 Church St., Belfast, Me., Oct. 8, 1924.

My Dear Mr. Durham.

Your letter to Miss Forbes of over a year ago she has just asked me to answer. You see she is no longer young and has had several illnesses these last years so that your letter was laid aside and forgotten. My husband and I are also much interested in the genealogy of the Durham family. The last week in September we took a motor trip up into New Hampshire, visiting the old town of Londonary, Derry and Chester, a most interesting trip. We could not get hold of any old records as they have been taken to Concord to be copied and cared for. Later I plan to go to Concord.

The name Tolford has persisted always in this branch of the family. We now have two sons whom we call John and Tolford. I was curious about it and as Auntie Forbes suggested it might have been a family surname. Went to hunting and found that old John Durham's wife was Mary Tolford. I found their marriage record in the U.S. of Bradford in 1734. We think she was of Chester, connected with John and Wm. Tolford of Chester—possibly a sister, as her son Tolford was born in Chester although John Durham before and after lived in Londonary. According to the history of Londondary, this John Durham came from Londondary, Ireland, but there the information stops in our branch of the family at least. At Exeter we found the indexes of deeds at the registry but the deeds themselves were in Concord. The earliest Durham transfers are in 1728 under the name of David, possibly John's father or brother. So you see David is a family name. John first transfered land in 1734, so we assume he must have been twentyone at that time at least, making him fifty-six at the least when he came to Belfast.

Our city records give the following marriages: Mrs. Isabel Durham and John Barnett, 1774; Mrs. Elizabeth Durham and James Moore, 1774. I have guessed that the "Mrs." was an old style way of writing "Miss" and that they were daughters, also sisters of Tolford and John.

I am afraid we are not going to get much more information



back, but shall persist for awhile. I may get some names off the deeds.

I hope if any of your family get east you will come to see us.

My husband's brother, William, lives in Kansas City, 3814 Warwick Ave. Our oldest John has just gone west and is in Index, Washington. I have in my possession a letter which your grandfather, David, wrote to our Uncle Tolford before his death, telling of the whereabouts of his family.

If I find anything more shall be glad to inform you, but am afraid we won't. The grandsons of old John would have known probably all the things we now so much want to know.

With very kindest regards, (Mrs. James C.) GERTRUDE F. DURHAM.

We have had letters from this same lady at various times since including the genealogies of the Tolfords and the Gilmores as recorded elsewhere in this volume.

The following letter, received from the president of the Lyon & Healy Music Company:

RAYMOND E. DURHAM 64 East Jackson Boulevard Chicago July 30th, 1930

DEAR MR. DURHAM:

I have your kind letter of the 16th enclosing invitation to the Reunion of the Durham families.

I regret to say that I know very little about the Durham family or about my forefathers on my father's side. My father's mother and father died before he was 8 years old. I know that one of my father's uncles lived somewhere in Iowa and visited us in our home in St. Paul when I was a boy, about thirty years ago. I know that he had one or two sons.

My father was born and raised in Jackson County, in southern Indiana, in a little town called Vallonia, near Seymore.

If there are any printed genealogy or lineage charts showing the descent of the different branches of the Durham family, I would appreciate getting a copy if any are available.

I regret that I do not anticipate being able to attend the reunion this year.

Sincerely yours,

RAYMOND E. DURHAM.

Mr. Lyle W. Durham, Milo, Iowa.



JOHN T. McCRILLIS FAMILY

John T. McCrillis : b. July 10, 1817, Belfast, Maine; d. Sept.

17, 1898, Tracy, Iowa.

Sept. 28, 1856, Belfast, Maine. married to

Harriet M. Jones b. Feb. 22, 1835, Belfast, Maine; d. Mar.

4, 1899, Tracy. Iowa.

Children James Y. McCrilles, Sept. 3, 1859, Belfast,

Maine.

Jane McCrillis, May 22, 1861, Belfast

Maine.

: John S. McCrillis, July 21, 1863, Belfast,

Maine.

: Clarinda McCrillis, Sept. 13, 1865, Belfast,

Maine.

: Charles McCrillis, July 5, 1867, Marion

County, Iowa.

Mary McCrillis, June 28, 1875, Marion

County, Iowa.

John S. McCrillis

: July 21, 1863.

married to

: Dec. 10, 1885, Tracy, Iowa.

Nettie Goodspeed

: Tracy, Iowa.

Children

: Clarence McCrillis, Tracy, Iowa,

: Nora McCrillis, Tracy, Iowa.

Charles McCrillis

: Tracy, Iowa; now Tracy, Minn., 1938.

married to

Aug. 28, 1892, Tracy, Iowa.

Hattie S. Gould

Tracy, Iowa, Deceased,

: No living children.

Mary McCrillis

married to

H. T. Curtis

: June 6, 1898.

Children : Clyde Curtis.

: Clara Curtis.

Deaths : Jane McCrillis, Dec. 20, 1928.

: John S. McCrillis, Dec. 13, 1935.

John S. McCrillis, heir to the History of Belfast, gave us the use of the above family record.



THE FOLLOWING TAKEN FROM A COLLECTION MADE BY H. B. DURHAM, OF CASPER, WYOMING

The following copy of an original memorandum of an agreement in the possession of J. P. Durham, Durham, Iowa, was made by me June 30, 1913.—H. B. Durham.

"Memorandum of an agreement made and entered into by the undersigned for the purpose of forming a company to make an expedition to the territory of Calif., do make and adopt the following articles to-wit:

- Art.1. We do agree to furnish an equal portion of the necessary amt. for the outfit according to the custom of companies of similar kind.
- Art. 2. All matters relating to the employment of the company and the occupation to be followed shall be decided by the majority and no one shall be at liberty to forsake the company without the consent of the majority.
- Art. 3. If any of the company are disabled by sickness or from any other cause the company is bound to take the proper care of any and all such invalids, and in the case of the death of any of the company his or their heirs shall be entitled to an equal share of the profits accruing from the expedition.
- Art. 4. The company are to be prepared to start on or before the first day of April next and if any of the company should be unable from sickness to start at the proper time of starting he shall have the privilege of furnishing a substitute to the acceptance of the company, or of selling out his share to the company.
- Art. 5. Any of the company failing to comply with any of the foregoing articles shall forfeit to the company his proportion of the outfit and \$50.00 besides.

Signed Feb. 6. 1849.

TOLFORD DURHAM, D. T. DURHAM, CHARLES H. DURHAM, ANSON TRUSSEL.

(The above copy, taken from data furnished by H. B. Durham. See letters on succeeding pages descriptive of the California trip.)



DEAR PARENTS:

I have not yet received a letter from you and do not expect to as we are about to start for Calif. We are about ready and expect to start on the 18th of this Mo. I will give you a list of some of the things we carry: 1,000 wt. of flour; 120 of sugar; 60 of coffee; 60 of rice; 20 of saleratus and other things in proportion.

We have good rifles one each and 25 lbs. of powder, 100 lbs. of lead, pistols and knives, so you see we are prepared to take things as we find them. We are to take a good wagon and four yoke of oxen. The whole has cost us \$700.00 or more, that is clothing and all. This will do about Calif. for the present.

Now for what I have been about this winter: I have been sick about three Mo. and confined to the house six weeks. The Dr. called it inflamation of the brain, but thanks to my cousins and the Dr. I am yet among the living and about as well as ever. Now about the country: There has been a great freshet on the river, and some of the Dutch lost cattle; we understood that a family were drowned at the mouth of the river. We have had a great deal of snow this winter and spring opens sooner than in Maine. It looks green here now. Uncle sowed his wheat about three weeks ago, but expect it is spoiled as the water has been over it four days. The whole bottom has been overflowed, the like was never known here before.

Our claim I expect we shall lose as we have not been able to sell it yet.

Uncle David's family is well, and he expects Uncle John out here this summer. I have enjoyed myself very well this winter except when sick. I begun this letter in the morning and this evening Charles got home from Knoxville and brought four letters, two for me and two for Anson, and it put me in high spirits. I was glad to hear from you, and that you were all well. I received the girls' letter last week, but you had not got the one I wrote last and I was afraid you would not get it in time to answer, but I have the ans. that is sure. Mother, I am coming home but it will be by the way of Calif. I should like to have the stockings you knit me, but you must save them for me. I am pretty well provided for, it cost us more to fit out here than it would in Belfast. We have had six girls sewing eight weeks for us four and smart ones at that, so you can judge that we are not naked,

Now you must keep up good courage. I am going on until I see harder times than I have yet. I would like to see all the folks before I go, but never mind, I expect you will see me before you want to.

Father, you can tell Uncle Jonathan that we would be glad



to sell our claim, but cannot. We will lose that much without any doubt, but we must not get discouraged.

I think that I will not write any more tonight as I will get time to finish before we start. I must finish this page with something.

Father, I want you to look after what little money I have in Belfast, and if they should want to take up the note, let the money to some one else that's good for it. You said that you did not understand whether we were on shares with the whole of the company or with the owners of our team. I will explain: us four: David, Charles, Anson and myself, fit out one team, each one paying an equal share in the outfit, and if making anything we will go equal shares in that, and if not making I guess we will go equal shares in that. I think you will understand how it is. Sarah, you must write me at San Francisco. I think you will if none of the rest do. I should like to see Ad & Bill very much. You must take good care of them and give them a stick of candy and charge it to me. Mary must take good care of yourself and get married as soon as you can, but take care and not get fooled. Sarah A. Durham is going to send you some love and a lock of her hair & if you get it. I think it will be as little as You can do to write her and send her some of yours in return. Eliza J. says that she is going to bed, and I think she had better for she was up late last night. Margret, she doesn't care whether I write about her or not, but she tells me she will write to some of you after we are gone.

Frank & Fred must keep up good fires for the girls. Sarah says I have written enough for tonight, so will quit.

Tuesday evening: I will write a few more lines tonight. We have things pretty near ready for a start. We shall get away about 12 o'clock tomorrow. I think there is some chance of selling our claim. We have been offered \$100.00 and shall take that if we can't get any more. We will lose \$12.00 and what labor we have done on it. Anson is in better spirits than I have seen him for some time. He has been rather downhearted this winter but now he feels better. I like the country well enough but if I was going to live here I should like to have some of the Belfast faces close by. This has been a very cold day, and is freezing hard tonight. I shall be glad when we get started for Calif. I will write a few more lines tonight and quit. They say you must not stop writing when I am gone. for they will always be glad to hear from you, and I wish you would for I have been treated more like a brother than anything

Mother, you always told me that I would not always find your cupboard to go to when away, but I find one here.

I don't know what more to write, and guess by the time you have finished this you will be glad to quit.



I will not seal this up till we are about starting, so good night.

This is to let you know that we are not gone yet. We could not get away yesterday, but will start in about an hour.

Mary, you can tell the girls that I didn't get time to write

them as we work night and day.

Mother, you must keep up good spirits. I must now leave you. Goodbye all of you. I cannot tell when you may look for me at home. I shall write every opportunity. So once more, goodbye.

From your son,

TOLFORD DURHAM.

Post Mark written Durham's Ford, Iowa, April 20, 1849.

(Above copy was written by Wm. B. Durham from copy of the original made by C. M. Moore, 1717 E. Sycamore Ave., Eagle Rock, California.)

(Clifton M. Moore, Margret Moore Waite, Gladys E. Moore on their way to California, Sept. 20, 1923.)

OUR EFFORTS TO GET INFORMATION DEFEATED

Indianapolis, Indiana, Nov. 26, 1900.

H. F. DURHAM, Caloma, Iowa. DEAR SIR:

Sometime ago I mailed to you a card such as the enclosed for full particulars concerning your family and ancestry, for names, birth dates, etc. So far I have not received a reply.

Please reply at once and comply as near as you can with

request on enclosed card and oblige,

Respt.,

JOSEPH PINCKNEY DURHAM.

628 E. Eleventh St.

The forcgoing letter was received by my father. I recall my father teiling me of the letter but as his health was failing at the time, he may or may not have answered Mr. J. P. Durham's request. However, as my son and I made a trip to Illinois and Indiana during the fall of 1923 and while near Russellville, Ind. I called on Mr. Ernest Durham, who was at the time cashier of the bank at that place. On finding him an agreeable man to meet, I later sent him invitations to attend our reunion on different occasions, and in 1932 I received a letter from his sister, Mrs. Margret Durham Bridges, stating her brother had passed away sometime previous, but that



she and her brother, Andrew E. Durham, of Greencastle, Ind., were thinking of coming to our reunion at Grand View Park, Des Moines, in August, 1932. Their acquaintance was soon acquired and a fine visit enjoyed. He, a son of the Hoosier state and a man of hearty stature, made himself known to just about every one on the grounds before any one had an opportunity to introduce him, having been a politician for several years, soon shook hands with every body; brought three of his children, Joan, Frank and Jane, all in their teens, and Mrs. Bridges, in all a very agreeable delegation.

We print herewith the following letter, received from Mr. Durham after returning home:

Greencastle, Indiana, September 27, 1932.

MR. W. B. DURHAM,
Milo, Iowa.
MY DEAR MR. DURHAM:

I have your very kind and thoughtful letter of Sept. 21st, relative to the history of the various Durhams in the United States.

It so happens I have received what I presume to be all of the Joseph P. Durham data concerning the Durhams. Some time after our return from Des Moines, the Fort Des Moines Hotel forwarded these papers to me here. They had been expressed from Corry, Penn., to me in care of the above Hotel, but had come there about two weeks after I left Des Moines. Since receiving them, I have barely opened them, I have been so busy. However, I think they tend to show that one John Durham came to Maryland direct from Durham, England. The time of his coming is probably not given. If my hasty perusal is correct, our people spring from him. Eventually, his descendants emigrated to Kentucky, thence to Indiana.

If you would like to look this data over, I shall be glad to ask Mr. Joseph P. Durham's son (who seems to be custodian of this data) to permit me to send it to you. There is quite a bit of it. Letters and data from Iowa, Texas, Indiana, Oregon, Tennessee and elsewhere. Kindly let me know your wishes.

I am not personally in the Campaign this year. By that, I mean I am not a candidate. I retired voluntarily in 1931 when I thought I had been favored with the nomination long enough. Others in other Counties wanted a legislative experience, and I had had the nomination three times consecutively for the Senate—a four year office. Prior to that, I had been in the House two terms from my own County. Enough, is enough. But I am adequately busy. A considerable lot of land, a Bank, and a law practice keeps me more than just on the jump.

We received the group picture in due time. Mrs. Bridges



has it. It is excellent for an outdoor picture. The photographer is to be congratulated.

Yes, we had a most pleasant time in Iowa. We speak of it often. It was a long trip out, and a long one back, but we are glad to have been able to make it. You folks are a splendid people. Honest, candid, and upright. We like you.

Please accept our sincere thanks for the many kindnesses, and the consideration shown us while in Iowa, and kindly extend our hearty felicitations to all of the Name.

Respectfully,

ANDREW E. DURHAM.

After receiving the above letter from Mr. Durham I lost no time in asking him to send us the data that Mr. Joseph P. Durham had collected, but as time rolled on, no papers came, so I wrote Andrew E. Accordingly, he again replied, expressing surprise that I had not received the data, as he had witnessed this son of J. P. Durham's tell another brother to either express or parcels post the data to me at Milo. I had previously written to the heirs of Joseph Pinckney Durham for information as to the success of his venture, none of my letters had been returned, leaving the impression that I might as well not write any more. The fact that Mr. J. P. Durham did not complete his history of the Durham families of America leaves the field open for others.





THE MUSICIAN AND HIS HARP

Oh those chords of magic power Take me back to child's hour, To the cott' beside the sea Where I knelt at mother's knee.

Chorus:

Bring my harp to me again, Let me sing one gentle strain, Let me hear its chords once more Ere I pass to you bright shore.

But that mother she has gone, Calm she sleeps beneath the stone, While I wander here alone, Sighing for a Brighter home.

Chorus:

Now I am nearing the river's side, Soon I'll launch upon its tide, Soon my boat with noiseless oar, Safe shall pass to you bright shore.

Chorus:

Now my boat is on the stream, I can see its waters gleam, Now I am hearing the Golden Shore There to dwell for ever more.

Chorus:

Bring my harp to me again, Let me sing one gentle strain, Let me hear its chords once more Ere I pass to you bright shore.



THE LESSONS FATHER TAUGHT

The poets sing of mother
Her ever-watchful care,
With face of angel sweetness
And crown of silver hair.
But what of father's feeble step,
His toil-worn trembling hand?
Could we forget? God help us,
To know and understand.

For father's heart was tender E'en though his manner gruff, And many a kindness shown us Was taken for rebuff. He toiled, that he might give us The brighter side of life, Too oft, we failed to thank him, Or help him in the strife.

Too oft we left the burdens
For father's back to bear,
And many times our troubles
With strangers we would share.
We failed to see his reasons,
For many a firm request,
Now, looking back we plainly see
That father's way was best.

When childish pleas and protests
Are mingled with our own,
'Tis then we feel the heart-ache
That father oft has known.
Amid the daily conflicts
And changes time has brought,
'Tis then we will remember
The lessons father taught.

-Mrs. Effle Crawford.

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